

Fun & Flexible

Sunrooms and screened porches bring the outside in

Shower Star Power
See a master bath that shines in the spotlight

NARI's 2005
Contractor of the Year Awards

Take it from the Top
Roofs and gutters can be pretty—really!

INSIDE
The MALTA
Landscape Source



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Each December, the Atlanta chapter of the National Association of the Remodeling Industry presents the Contractor of the Year (CotY) Awards to members who have demonstrated outstanding work in their remodeling projects. For the 2005 awards, a panel of judges selected winners from projects in 13 categories, from kitchen and bath remodels to whole-house renovations. This spring, some of the winners will go on to enter their projects in the national CotY Awards.



2005 Contractor of the Year Awards

JUDGES:

Warner McConaughey, HammerSmith Inc.
Steve Anderson, Stock Building Supply
Gregory Hanson, Guild Quality
Liset Robinson, Savannah College of Art and Design
Steve Smith, Residential Construction Specialties
Laura Judy, *Atlanta Home Improvement* magazine

Residential Kitchen \$60,000 to \$100,000
 ●●●● SMALL CARPENTERS AT LARGE INC.



Small Carpenters at Large Inc., owned by Danny Feig-Sandoval, is an award-winning design/build residential remodeling company. They have been providing in-town Atlanta with 25 years of quality craftsmanship, creative design, small and specialty projects, and full-scale remodeling. Their pledge is to have all their customers say they were glad they hired Small Carpenters at Large and that they would do it again. ●



After photos by Erica George Dines Photography

Residential Addition Over \$250,000
 SMALL CARPENTERS AT LARGE INC. ●●●●



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NARI GIVES YOU A PLACE TO START ●●●

As you start thinking about remodeling a kitchen or bath, the first question is, where do I start? Who do I call to begin the design process? When should I call a contractor? Where do I go to find someone I trust?

In the Atlanta area, there is an association of qualified professional remodelers who can be called first to discuss the possibilities of your particular needs and wants. The National Association of the Remodeling Industry (NARI) is the place to start. Nine of the city's top 10 remodelers, as ranked by the Atlanta Business Chronicle, are members of NARI.

Using a NARI member will give you peace of mind to know that you're dealing with top-quality companies. Contractor members have passed a rigorous application process to join the organization that includes background checks, insurance verification, fair contract agreements, and supplier and client reference checks. And finally, NARI has an Ethics Committee dedicated to making sure you are being treated fairly. Make sure your next project is handled by a NARI member. The NARI logo is the mark of a true professional.

The NARI Web site, www.nariantlanta.org, has information on specific contractors, as does the annual directory of members, which can be obtained by calling the NARI office at (404) 766-7179, ext. 25.

Make the Selection Process Easier

- Select a contractor who works in your local area.
- Look for the NARI logo and a member of the local chapter.
- Check the contractor at the Office of Consumer Affairs.
- Call references and ask to see finished projects.
- Do not blindly accept the lowest bid, look at materials and service as well.

Proper Planning is Key

- Think through your remodel from start to finish for your needs and lifestyle.
- Plan your improvements to increase the value of your home.
- Customize your living space to update your home.
- Think ahead regarding future needs and discuss with your contractor.
- Carefully consider what you can afford and what you can borrow.
- Talk with a mortgage loan officer who specializes in renovation loans.

Choose a Professional

Know the differences between these professional contractors:

Architect/Designer—When your remodeler does not provide design services, the architect can design, recommend a contractor, and evaluate proposals, compliance, building codes and job specifications.

Contractor—Many home improvements may be handled by an experienced contractor. Even small projects need careful planning and attention to detail.

Design/Build Contractor—Both quality design and construction services are within the same contracting company. With knowledge of your job costs, this contractor can engineer the project to fit your needs and budget.

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