

An Eye to the World

A New Addition for the Whole Family



Photos courtesy of Jim Westphalen

Purchasing an older home can have its spatial challenges especially when you have two young children who need room to grow. When they first purchased this South Burlington home, Kim and Cliff Deetjen's children

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where small and didn't need much space. But as time went on it became apparent that they needed more room, and without a basement or attic that could be converted into a family area, they decided the best thing to do was add on to the house. Fortunately the owner's work in the home improvement industry, Kim as an interior designer and principal at Truex Cullins, Inc. and Cliff as a builder/architect for Prime Construction. So finding the help they needed for the project was the least of their worries.

Since the home is an old stone structure, they wanted to keep that whimsical, simple, cottage look for the addition. The challenge for them was to make sure that the interior of the house was true to the outside. So with that in mind, they actually designed the space from the inside, out!

The Deetjen's wanted the



addition to be multi-functional so that it could accommodate a home office for both of them, they could entertain large groups, or the kids could play or watch TV. The architectural result was a large open space with a cathedral ceiling, an office off to the side, and a loft space that now houses a model train set and lots of games for the kids. But it is the details that make this addition so special.

Contractor Matt Boyle worked closely with the Deetjen's to build the project. Much time and consideration was given to the placement of the windows, coordination of their varying heights and the millwork that was to accompany them so that everything matched both inside and out. One of the most interesting features of this addition is the large

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eyebrow window that faces to the west. It serves as a focal point inside with its curved ceiling and view, but also serves as a focal point from the outside with its very unique curved roofline.

It was also important to the Deetjen's to use as many local products as possible in the addition. Kevin Hastings from Amoskeag Woodworking Inc. provided the cabinetry that was specifically designed to complement the cottage style they were trying to achieve, while much of the lighting came from Conant Custom Brass. The exception being the fabulous chandelier that hangs from the vaulted ceiling. This stunning piece, designed by Lars Allen, is the perfect compliment to the furnishings and details of this room. A V-grooved ceiling adds subtle architectural interest as well.

By working in tandem, the Deetjen's proved that when interior design is carefully integrated with architectural design, the results can be not only functional, but beautiful as well.

