



# FLIPPING FOR CONTEMPORARY

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Ever since I finished remodeling my Morrocroft home 18 months ago, my friends and viewers have asked, "How are you enjoying your new home? Would you have done anything differently? Just for the record, I love my house and there isn't anything that I would change. But when a house just three doors down from mine, with the same original floor plan, came on the market, I jumped at the opportunity to do it all over again, but differently.

Have you ever finished a major remodeling project and started wondering what if you had chosen different colors or perhaps a different design style? My house is transitional and classic in design and style. This time I thought it would be fun to renovate the house with a more contemporary flare. It's a

trend that keeps building momentum with the design and construction trades and community.

The house was built around 1979 and had only one owner until I purchased it in April. Everything in the house was original which meant it needed lots of work and updating. The first call I made was to Jeanine DeVaney of Charlotte In-Vironments. Jeanine was the project designer on my house, and I love her creativity and energy. She was thrilled to join me in my "flip for contemporary".

J & H Custom Builders started demolition on the house in June. It seemed like we threw away more of the house than we kept. But that happens when you move almost every wall and install a new kitchen, three new bathrooms and a laundry room.

I replaced all the old double hung windows with new Pella casement windows with horizontal mullions. All the exterior doors were also replaced, and similar to my house, I went with black ore aluminum cladding on the exterior with wood interiors. To give the house a more contemporary feel, the interior doors were replaced as well. I worked with Door Works, a local custom interior door manufacturer. Eventually, I decided to have all the windows and the doors painted black. I just love that look for any style home.

New kitchens, bathrooms and a laundry room all required new cabinetry. I worked with Forever Cabinets by Kendrick in Iowa. They are a wonderful company that grow their own trees, operate their



own sawmill and have a great designer, Alicia Walz. She was fun to work with, and the quality of their cabinets is outstanding. In addition to the custom cabinetry, all of the closets were designed by Organized Living.

Technology plays such a big role in all our lives today, so it was important to make sure I incorporated as much as possible into this house. The electric lighting was designed by Eaton's Cooper Lighting. The plan included 45 new Halo LED down lights throughout the house, a new electrical control panel and advanced lighting technology from Eaton's Wiring Devices division. Features like lights with sensors that turn on when you walk into a closet or pantry and off when you leave; baseboard lighting with built-in night-lights for hallways and wall plugs with built-in USB ports so you can charge your smart phones or tablets without occupying one of the outlets. Plus decorative switches and screwless faceplates.

The bathrooms feature "heated floors" by NuHeat. The garage door opener by LiftMaster can be operated from your smart phone or tablet. You can even set it to turn on and off a lamp inside your house. The kitchen faucets by Kohler are hands free as well as the toilets. You just wave your hand over the button and it flushes. The toilets also have a built in night light. I just love incorporating technology into home improvement projects.

I selected decorative lighting from Crystorama. At first I struggled with using crystals in a contemporary setting, but it was a perfect choice. The house is loaded with crystals, silver leaf and dark metal. Other lighting is from Kichler and Progress Lighting.

We had three bathrooms to renovate. The master bath was the biggest challenge but turned out to be one of my favorites. We installed a large steam shower with beautiful ceramic and marble tile by Daltile. Contemporary polished chrome faucets and glass vessel sinks by Kohler provide the perfect set-

ting for the spa like bath. The wall mounted walnut vanity was under lighted with LED lights so it appears to be floating on the wall. The entrance to the master bath was framed by a set of double sliding walnut barn doors manufactured by Sun Mountain Door out of Colorado. They are suspended from a stainless steel overhead track by AMBA Products.

Kitchens are always the most fun to design, and the biggest draw for attention and renovation dollars. The custom kitchen cabinets were painted gray and featured polished chrome contemporary hardware from Top Knobs. The countertops throughout the kitchen and the house were by Silestone. Thermador's Professional Appliance series were the perfect selection for the house. Its strong, stainless steel design worked beautifully with the gray cabinetry and stainless Kohler faucets and sinks. LED lighting by Kichler was used to light up the floating wall shelves and under the island.



The living room features Fypon moldings and a new-coffered ceiling placed on the diagonal, a floor to ceiling window wall by Pella and a glass and flame contemporary fireplace. The major focal point in this room is the custom entertainment unit built by Rob Kleber from Earth in Home out of Asheville, NC. He just does amazing work and is a true artist and craftsman.

The dining room wall treatment included new judges paneling also by Fypon and a beautiful silver decorative painting treatment by Jennifer Serrano. She also designed and painted the powder room along with her assistant Pamela Weed.

The exterior of the home was completely updated.

A metal roof was added to bridge together the two side wings of the home. A new garage door by Clopay and outdoor lighting by Kichler helped to update the overall look of the exterior of the house.

The old brick patio had fallen over 10" due to water erosion. A new patio featuring pavers by Pavestone, a patio flame and built-in grill by Napoleon were used to replace it. The grill was surrounded by Dekton, a new exterior countertop material by Consentino. A towering Southern grown cypress pergola built from 12" x 12" solid beams completed the outdoor living space.

I worked with Growing Legacy Landscape to develop a plan that would be low maintenance and

bring the entrance of the home back to Morrocroft standards. A stone retaining wall established a raised lawn area that was covered with artificial turf from Artificial Turf Products. Foundation plantings were added as well as a new gate to Sharon Road, along with outdoor lighting by Kichler and a new irrigation system by Rainbird. The features all created a beautiful maintenance free formal entrance to the home.

I still love my house, but I'm grateful to all my partners for helping me take a walk on the contemporary side for a few months. The new owner is all moved in, and I enjoy walking past the house and reliving the fun we had bringing another wonderful Charlotte home back to life. \*



**“FOR YOUR HOME” PHILANTHROPY SHOW HOUSE BENEFITS LEVINE CHILDREN’S HOSPITAL**

The Second Annual “For Your Home” Philanthropy Gala was attended by a sold out crowd at this newly renovated Morrocroft home. The evening benefited the Oncology/Hematology Clinic at the Levine Children’s Hospital. Over 150 guests toured the home, met the designers and craftsmen, and participated in a silent auction for the contemporary furnishings selected by FYH host, Vicki Payne. Anne Neilson Fine Art Gallery provided the art for the home and auction. The event raised funds for the Children’s Hospital in honor of Libby Jones, who lost her battle with Leukemia last spring.

The evening was sponsored by Charlotte Living and Pella Doors & Windows. Beverages were provided by Petit Philippe and Miller. Nine area restaurants,

coordinated by Charlotte Culinary Expert, Heidi Billotto, provided incredible appetizers. They included Beverly’s Gourmet Foods, Bonterra Dining & Wine Room, Mellow Mushroom, Heirloom, Cowfish, e2 Emeril’s Eatery, Ilios Noches, Flipside Café and Chuy’s. The Philanthropy Show House will be featured in the upcoming 2015 season of “For Your Home”, one of the longest running national home and garden television series on PBS. Vicki Payne, FYH host and designer, managed every detail in the transformation of the 30 year old Morrocroft home into a stunning contemporary show place.

Special thanks to the volunteers and the generous house and furnishing partners listed below.

Contractors: J&H Custom Builders; Project Designer: Jeanine DeVaney, Charlotte In-Vironments; Landscaping: Growing Legacy Landscape; Special Assistance Provided by Building Center; Engineering, Sustainable Engineering; Windows, Pella Doors and Windows; Cabinets, Forever Cabinets, Installed by Mazzone Carpentry; Entertainment Unit: Rob Kleber, Earth In Home; Plumbing Fixtures, Kohler, Fergusons; Plumbing: Service Plumbing; Countertops: Silestone by Cosentino, Installed by Stabella; Appliances: Thermador, Fergusons; Doors, Exterior by Pella, Interior by Door Works, Hardware by Better Home Products, Barn doors by Sun Mountain Door, Hardware by AMBA Products; Trim and Moldings: Building Center, Fypon; Floors: Accent Wood Floors, Daltile; Tile, Daltile, Installed by B & K Marble;

Heated Floors: NuHeat; Lighting, Crystorama, Cooper Lighting, Eaton, Kichler, Progress; Electrical: Roby Electric; Decorative Painting: Dining Room and Powder Room by Jennifer Serrano, Assisted by Pamela Weed, Stair Runner - Heidi Cinker; Roofing & Gutters: H&S Roofing, Metal Roofing Systems, Pinnacle Roofing Inc.; Iron Work: Boudreaux Iron Shop; Closet Systems: Organized Living; Fireplace: Dimplex; Garage: Door by Clopay, Opener by LiftMaster, Installation by Cox Doors, Floor by Garage Experts; Landscaping: Growing Legacy Landscape, Pavers by Pavestone, Lighting by Kichler, Patio Flame by Napoleon, Grill by Napoleon, Irrigation by Rainbird, Turf by Artificial Turf Products, Pergolas by Southern Cypress Association; Artwork: Anne Neilson Fine Art Gallery; Rugs, Stark, Loloi; Drapes:

Softline, Drape Expectations, Sunbrella Fabrics; Lamps: Currey & Company; Kitchen: Chairs by Bassett; Living Room: Day Bed by Taylor King, Lance Chairs by Bernhardt, Flynn Chairs by American Leather, Tables - Laurel House, Earth In Home, Lamps by Currey & Company, Drapes by Softline; Dining Room: Table and Chairs by Hooker Furniture, Console by Laurel House, Drapes by Sunbrella; Master Bedroom: Bed by Bassett, Custom Bedding Sunbrella, Mattress by Stearns & Foster, Sofa by Bassett, Tables by Laurel House, Lamps by Currey & Company; Guest Room, Bedding by Rizzy Home, Mattress by Stearns & Foster, Tables by Laurel House, Lamps by Currey & Company, Drapes by Softline; Office, Desk by BDI, Sofa by Bassett, Table by Bassett, XILamps by Currey & Company; Drapes by Softline

