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 NormanDesignGroup.com

## NORMAN DESIGN GROUP

### DESCRIBE THE FEATURED PROJECT.

Our client desired to lighten things up in their kitchen and family room, moving away from a heavier palette and into coastal tones for a more peaceful, serene retreat. We accomplished this by combining a soothing selection of blue, dusty grey, taupe, driftwood and off-white to create an oasis that was less Tuscan and more what we call “Spanish Coastal.”

Texture and timeworn details define the new space. We sourced reclaimed, hand-hewn beams for the ceilings and fireplace mantel from a 100-year-old barn in Ohio and designed a mosaic-patterned, marble and limestone blend backsplash to add some old-world charm. The kitchen’s most memorable feature is an amazing island with laser-cut front panels, inspired by a Moorish door design. A hand-carved cabinet anchors the family room, where the tranquil color scheme and custom designed furnishings continue.

One thing we pay special attention to when creating a very sophisticated interior is to ensure the

space is practical as well as stylish. The oak floors have a high durability finish, barstools are covered in perennial fabric and countertops are beautiful quartzite, which mimics marble but without the maintenance. All contribute to an elegant but livable environment for this active family and their two dogs.

To truly appreciate this dramatic transformation, check out before and after pictures here ([norman.designgroup.com/projects/spanish-coastal](http://norman.designgroup.com/projects/spanish-coastal)).

### WHAT SHOULD A HOMEOWNER KNOW BEFORE STARTING A REMODEL?

Understand the process. Ask your designer and creative team to run you through a typical timeline and the steps along the way. This helps you know what to expect and how long things will take.

Don’t be afraid to ask questions. Remodeling can be a daunting, sometimes overwhelming task, but we’re your partner and can help you make big decisions you’re literally going to have to live with for a long time. No question is too small or unim-

portant; just ask.

Do your homework. Educate yourself on what things cost. Talk to friends who’ve done similar projects. Look at design magazines and websites. Of course you can binge watch HGTV, but be aware that they’re not always realistic on timelines and budgets.

### WHAT EARNS YOU THE HIGHEST MARKS FROM CLIENTS?

We’re known for our creativity, organization, follow-up, pro-active solutions and personable, approachable style to a highly intimidating process. Clients appreciate our team approach, with three designers assigned to their project: myself, a senior designer and a design associate. This provides perspective from three sets of eyes to offer the best solutions and disseminate information in a timely fashion. Communication and chemistry with clients is our top priority. I like to say, “We’re in the customer service business—we just happen to be designers.”

