

Hear from the Experts at the 2012 Home Design & Remodeling Fair on January 29.
Talks are held in Room 3 and last 25 minutes, including Q & A.

10:30 am Home Design 101: Getting Started

American Institute of Architects: Anna Mihkels, AIA of Group3 Architects

Dreaming about a project and not sure where to start? Trying to figure out how to make the most of your budget? Curious about green design or how to plan for your family's changing needs? Whether your project is a small remodel or new construction -- or if you are just curious about the design process -- AIA architects can help. Join us for an information-packed seminar on how to make the most of any project.

11:10 am 5 Keys to a Successful Remodel

Rebecca West of Rivalee Design & Stuart McFeely, Architect

A remodel is only as good as the planning you put into it. Architect Stuart McFeely and Interior Designer Rebecca West share with you the keys to developing a successful master plan for your remodel, essential for making a house your home. You'll learn tips for staying within budget and getting the results you want, whether you DIY or work with a professional.

11:50 am Choosing & Hiring a Contractor

Thomas Kayser, Architect

There are many ways to reach a satisfactory agreement with a contractor. This presentation will describe the different types of agreements, each offering advantages for different types of projects. Understanding this decision will help in choosing a contractor and making the best contract.

12:30 pm Backyard Cottages

Stefan Hansmire and Drew Foster of NCompass Cottage Company and Bruce Parker of Microhouse

Would you like to know more about backyard cottages? These small houses provide opportunities for families, including as a home for an aging family member, a rental unit or an office. Bring your ideas and learn more about backyard cottage design, construction, and uses. After the presentation we will be available to answer questions about your project.

1:10 pm Windows & Doors 101: Designs and Solutions that Work

Michan Rhodes of Keystone Windows & Doors

Hear from an expert on the use of windows and doors to create energy efficient environments and increase property values. While many of us only see four walls and a roof, with every new project Ms. Rhodes sees a world of possibilities. Join us as Ms. Rhodes shares her expertise and introduces us to her favorite new window, Essence by Milgard, the only wood window with a lifetime warranty.

1:50 pm How Solar Can Save Money, the Economy and the Planet

Jeremy Smithson of Puget Sound Solar

Homeowners can affect 1/3 of the energy used in the U. S. by achieving energy balance through the use of solar energy, energy efficiency and electric cars. Learn how these technologies work together and how falling costs, rising incentives and simple financing have made "Making a Difference" more do-able than ever before.

2:30 pm Landscape Design 101

Joanna D'Asaro, of Greener Living Solutions

What are the fundamentals of good landscape design? How can you apply these ideas to create a garden you love? Joanna, a landscape architect, has designed over 400 custom gardens.

3:10 pm Choosing the Right Strategy for Financing Home Improvements

Bob Fish, HomeStreet Bank

Find out the logical sequence of steps to determine if a remodel is feasible and worthwhile. Learn what you need to know to identify the best way to finance your project.