



Guest Editor
**HEATHER
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"When it is time to renovate, following a "Classic, chic and serene" mantra will really help your investment dollars last longer. Renovating your home is costly and, as a homeowner, you should plan to spend wisely on design elements that will last. How do you do that? Focus on avoiding 'trends' but spend on classic elements, which will last through the years. Here are 6 of my favorite renovation elements."

BANQUETTE If I have a client renovating a kitchen area, I usually look to see if there is a way to incorporate unique seating. Banquettes are just as comfortable for reading the paper and drinking coffee as they are for large family gatherings. You don't have to 'build in' a banquette. Consider a customizable, freestanding piece, such as this banquette from Vanguard furniture. It is available in plenty of kid friendly options such as Sunbrella, Vinyl and Leather.



**PERRIN & ROWE CONTEMPORARY
BRIDGE KITCHEN FAUCETS**

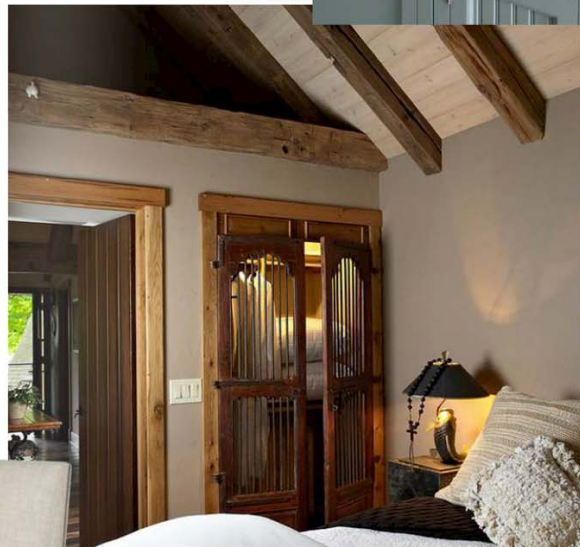
If you plan on staying in your home, splurge on a few chic items. What better item to upgrade than something you use every day, multiple times a day. A bridge faucet is always in style and this one from Perrin & Rowe will add an element of every day luxury you wouldn't have known you were missing! I've shown my favorite finish, polished chrome. Today it is just fine to mix metal finishes throughout your home.

PAINT Perhaps the most affordable renovation solution is paint. Paint can be intimidating, but is a fairly inexpensive and easy selection to change down the road. I encourage you to step out of your comfort zone and choose a dramatic paint color for impact. You might want to go neutral in the main areas of the home, but lesser used rooms, such as a dining room, powder bath or guest bedroom, are wonderful opportunities to test bolder color.



**SHAW'S ORIGINAL
FARMHOUSE SINK**

A fireclay, apron front sink will look just at home in a \$100,000 house as it will in a \$10,000,000 home. The 'farmhouse' sink has always been in style, only it has made its way from country homes into sophisticated spaces across the country. Different front styles are available, from modern and clean lined to a more traditional rounded style. The Shaw's brand sinks have been made in England since 1897, a sure sign of a classic!



MILLWORK In my opinion, investing in the architectural envelope of your room will always pay dividends. The better the interior architecture of the home (ex. crown molding, wainscoting, coffered ceilings) the less you will need to spend on décor. Shiplap paneling is my favorite millwork design. This 'beach-y' look can also be found in country cottages and lakeside retreats. Paneling can make a formal home more approachable and take a simple home and give it character.



LIGHTING I've said many times, lighting is the jewelry of the room. Scale is incredibly important when selecting items for your home. But, lighting is one area where I believe you should upsize and go a bit bigger than the standards recommend. When choosing hanging lighting, add the length and width for the diameter for your new light fixture. I like to take this number and go up from that figure for greater impact.