



REMODELING YOUR HOME

What To Watch Out For

PHOTO COURTESY OF ARRIGONI WOODS

When determining the type of wood to use for the interior of a particular house, Balz Arrigoni likes to meet directly with the customer.

At Arrigoni Woods, the old world is part of the new in the form of wide-plank flooring that comes from Austria and Germany. The product exudes a rich heritage and fine European tradition.

Arrigoni Woods imports, distresses, finishes, and installs flooring and is involved in every step of the process. They carry rustic ash, oak, reclaimed spruce, walnut and European mountain larch, to name a few popular species.

Special treatments such as hand scraping, wire brushing, heat treatments, and custom finishes create a unique floor for today's homes. A popular trend in the mountains is the hand-scraped version of Arrigoni products.

All flooring is based on a three-layer system to give it functionality in the dry mountain climate and over in-floor radiant heat. Arrigoni recommends the floated and glue-down installation process as an alternative to nail-down, allowing the wood to expand over its entire area.

Keeping a large inventory of woods in the Vail Valley, Arrigoni and his craftsmen and installers can provide a six-to-eight-week turnaround

time using woods imported from a small Austrian village. "It is amazingly fast," he says. "We sell hand-hacked boards from chalets, as well as beams and doors that can be 100 years old. They come with the history of the wood and its origins."

The Arrigoni Woods' showroom is in the Meadow Mountain Business Park in Minturn.

Web site: www.arrigoniwood.com

Telephone: 970-479-1800

Email address: info@arrigoniwood.com

Decorative Materials International Limited's Vail Valley showroom specializes in stone and mosaics, ceramic tiles, sinks, vanities, and design services.

Located in the Minturn Business Center, it offers customers a peak at a wide range of choices for their homes.

"Our mission is to provide designs that utilize the latest in ceramic tiles, stone, and mosaics in high-end homes," says owner/designer

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COURTESY OF SPLASH HOME

Margot Hampleman. "Lately, texture is as important as color. Anything goes. People are combining rough textures with contemporary glass tiles in one room. But no one is trying to make a space contemporary just because it is now very accepted in design."

Describing DMI's services, Hampleman explains, "We help people design what they want for their home. We are distinguished from others by the range of our products and our design capabilities."

Design may be very minimalist with sleek, simple lines such as polished metals and glass. Tiles can be glass, metal, or hand-pressed relief. Freestanding marble bowls show off vanity stands. Stone, ceramic, and mosaic materials in combination complete a look once wood and iron vanities, glass and stone sinks, and fireplaces are in place.

Decorative Materials International's three showrooms are located in Basalt, Vail and in the Denver Design Center. These state-of-the-art spaces feature vignettes that showcase the latest colors, textures, and materials.

Hampleman has been designing with an emphasis on customer service and unique products since 1991. DMI is featured on Frontier Airlines' In-Flight segment on all flights in June.

Web site: www.decorativematerials.com
 Telephones: Vail 970-827-4194; Basalt 970-927-0700;
 and Denver 303-916-5555
 Email address: margot@decorativematerials.com

Ruggs Benedict offers floor products to both commercial and residential markets. The company's success is in its broad selection, value, and installation services, according to owner Roger Benedict.

In 1989, Benedict decided to focus on value and became a member of the Carpet One carpet dealer co-op, combining the buying power of over 1,000 stores. Carpet One's lower prices and competitive values are passed on to the consumer.

"Product is primary," Benedict says. "We meet and exceed the changing demands of the marketplace."

Specialty broadloom carpets, unique ceramic tile, and hardwood products provide durability and style. Flooring installation - including

carpet, tile, and hardwood - is the greater part of the business.

Benedict and his brothers started installing flooring in Vail in 1972. "Ruggs Benedict originally comes from the installation side," Benedict says. "We employ our own staff of trained installers and can guarantee the quality of our projects."

Over 1000 area rugs are on display in the Avon showroom.

Tufenkian carpets from Tibet are popular with clients. "They are by far the leader at making designs and colors that work well in American homes, especially with rustic, mountain homes. These big-character, heavy-body, Tibetan wool carpets fit well in our mountain environment," says Benedict. "The rugs are crafted in the traditional way. The wool is hand carded, hand spun, hand tied, and hand woven."

New selections become available approximately every 90 days. In that way, customers have fresh, new choices year-round.

The Ruggs Benedict showroom is located on the north side of Avon at 810 Nottingham Road.

Web site: www.ruggsbenedict.com
 Telephone: 970-949-5390
 Email: info@ruggsbenedict.com

First and foremost in a house is the kitchen and all the delightful things found there in places like cabinets and on countertops. As family and friends gather in the heart of the home it is evident that cabinetry and countertops are central to family life and the beauty of the kitchen space.

Rob Hall's Kitchens Plus goes a step further in making the changes to homes his clients require. The company has furnishings for all rooms of the house, be it family room entertainment centers or cabinets for the bathroom and laundry.

They offer turnkey services for kitchens, baths, and complete home or condominium renovations. They also help clients design the new spaces and provide all fixtures and finishes including tile, paint, and lighting.

Among the countertops available are granite, soapstone, or one of the quartz products offered by Cambria. Cabinet suppliers include Custom Cupboards, Crystal, and Tischlerei. Hall says, "We can install anything that we sell."

From the beginning stages of gutting the space to completion, the average timeline is three to three-and-a-half months per condominium.

On staff are experienced design and sales personnel, including an interior designer. Owner/designer Hall has worked in kitchens for 15 years. His company's logo is "Making unique kitchens a reality."

41184 US Highway 6 and 24, Eagle-Vail
 Web site: www.robhallskitchensplus.com
 Telephone: 970-845-0945

COURTESY OF RUGGS BENEDICT

Above: Home spas are becoming a "must have" for mountain residences in resort communities such as the Vail Valley
 Right: Rugs add beauty, color and vibrancy to just about any room in the home.

