



PHOTO: JIM PRISCHING

Craig Ciaglia is the vice president of Homes By Pinnacle.

How to Design Your Dream Home

PUT TOGETHER THE RIGHT TEAM FOR HOMEBUILDING SUCCESS

IMAGINE LIVING in a home that is perfectly designed for you, a dream home that reflects your personality and seamlessly fits the unique characteristics of your family. It's an exciting thought, one that has the ability to capture the imagination of almost any homeowner.

But how do you get from dreaming about your perfect home to designing the perfect home? Unfortunately, the answer isn't as simple as just hiring an architect. To successfully design your dream home, you must balance both your architectural desires with your construction budget. This balancing act isn't easy to do, but when done correctly you end up saving time, money, and frustration.

To highlight the importance of balancing both your architectural dreams with the reality of

your construction budget, you must first understand the repercussions if you don't execute this delicate balancing act. When you begin designing your home, the goal is for the process to be both fun and efficient. You will spend weeks and even months watching your dreams and ideas take shape. You'll be emotionally invested in every detail and will edit the plans numerous times to ensure your design represents your perfect home.

TWO TOP GOALS

The experience will be exciting, and you will become emotionally attached to your new dream home. Now imagine for a moment you've completed this journey and sadly have come to realize your dream home can't be built within your budget; your time and effort suddenly seems like a

waste. The dream home which you've poured your heart and soul into designing is ripped from your grasp as reality sets in and you realize your dream home is financially out of reach. This scenario occurs all too often.

The good news is the above scenario doesn't have to happen to you, if you know what to do and what to look for. When thinking about designing your dream home, focus on the two most important goals—what you want your home to look like, and establish a construction budget you feel comfortable with. With today's technology the first part is easy. You can search through millions of pictures on the internet and zero in on the look and feel you gravitate towards. Use these images and create a design folder that illustrates the dream home you're trying to create. Pictures are worth a thousand words and these images will make it easier for you to convey your ideas to your architect and design team.

The second part of the equation is equally important. You must establish your construction



The home office for work or as sanctuary space.




This powder room features a floating vanity.

budget. If you need assistance from your financial advisor, reach out to him or her and have a discussion that clearly sets a budget you feel comfortable with. Once you've done your due diligence and have completed these goals, you're now ready to find your design team.

CHANGING COSTS OF MATERIALS

When thinking about designing your home, you need to look outside the lines of conventional thinking. The idea that you simply need to hire an architect is only half of the answer. Architects are great at designing homes and they're going to do everything you ask from them, but most architects don't buy materials and labor on a daily basis. Since they don't buy materials and labor on a daily basis, they can't accurately tell you what your dream home will cost. This is true today more than ever with pandemic-driven changes in manufacturing supply chains.

Professional home builders and general contractors buy materials and labor on a daily basis. They understand current market conditions and can help guide you and the architect in keeping the design of your home within your construction budget. That's why it's so important to have both your builder and architect working together to design your home. When you have both parties designing your dream home, your project becomes more efficient and the process becomes more enjoyable.

If you're thinking about designing your dream home, make sure you have the right design team working together to ensure your project is a success. Hire a builder and an architect you feel comfortable with and use their expertise to help guide you through the process. When brought together, your design team can create an amazing home that supersedes your expectations and stays within your construction budget. 

Craig Ciaglia is the vice president of Homes By Pinnacle. He grew up in the Barrington area and today, he and his wife are raising their children here. Reach him at craig@homesbypinnacle.com, or by calling 847-842-1840. Visit homesbypinnacle.com and follow @homesbypinnacleinc.



A Homes By Pinnacle dream home.



A beautiful exterior offers a warm welcome.