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A REMARKABLE RENOVATION
SPRING HOME IMPROVEMENTS

Real People, Real Homes, Real Style...Real Katy Living

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A Remarkable Renovation

A villa gets a facelift

Since 1998, these homeowners have moved from Houston to Canada, then back to Houston. They make their living in the oil and gas industry and though frequent moves are sometimes a fact of life, it's not always easy to find and make a home.

Prior to their stint in Calgary, Alberta, the couple lived in West U in a 4,000-square-foot home on a 5,000-square-foot lot. Though they liked the neighborhood and its conveniences, they were dissatisfied with the lack of outdoor space and they felt pushed right up next to their neighbors.

When the husband's job dictated the move to Canada, his wife lamented, "We had three days to find a home, which we did, because we didn't want to have to move twice — once into temporary housing; then again into our permanent space." Though rushed and pressured, they did find a suitable Alberta abode, which they made more comfortable with a little renovation.

Ironically, history has a way of repeating itself. The couple — now a family of three — were transferred back to Houston. "Again, we had basically one weekend to pin down a place to live





THIS PAGE: Marble floors and countertops, glass tile insets, a custom window and a dainty chair make this vanity all about the lady of the house. | A fully renovated master bath made this space the glamorous retreat the homeowners desired. Ochre Light Drizzle Chandelier Rectangular, Polished Nickel; Countertops: existing Siberian Sunset marble; Floors: WZ Calacatta Luna marble with WZ Siberian Sunset marble inset pattern; Shower: WZ Calacatta Luna marble tiles with WZ Siberian Sunset marble border, inset is WZ Vintage Oyster Lustre 1"X1" glass tiles; Victoria & Albert Toulouse Bateau-style Freestanding Tub; Rubinet Hexis Series Floor-mount Tub Filler, all plumbing from Fixtures & Fittings.

RIGHT PAGE: A master bedroom which is equal parts luxury and comfort includes fabulous fabrics, luxurious linens and elegant furnishings. S & L Designs Cambria Bed King-size, finish, Waxed Black; Reupholstered existing lounge chairs in Kravet Barbara Barry Faded Memory, color: Jadestone; Pearson Ottoman upholstered in GH Leather "England", color: Cobblestone; Tritter Feefer Natalie Writing Desk, finish: Monte Carlo; Bliss Studio Belgrano Chair, seat upholstered Cowtan & Tout Manuel Canovas Granite; Bliss Studio Lisieux Lamp on desk; Peacock Alley Montauk bedding on bed; Custom Bed hanging; Made Goods Lexi Nightstands with Bone insets; Custom-made Draperies from Noveltex Kerman Linen; Hickory Chair Marler Apartment Sofa upholstered in JF Fabrics Posh Velvet, color: Mineral.

pets into an apartment while their downstairs was being gutted and then reconstructed. "Because we had signed contracts and had to give notice, we knew we had to be back in the house on target, which is why our weekly team meetings were so important."

As for the details of the makeover, the homeowners are moving in phases. They began by using the already existing neutral walls and a painting (acquired on a trip to Seattle) that hangs over the fireplace as their inspiration for color. The wife explains, "Now the colors in that painting show up all over our home, really tying the spaces together." They also re-did floors — refinishing wood in some areas, switching from travertine to marble in others — and changed out fabrics on some chairs, a couch and accessories.

Renovation commenced with two areas which they felt were really dated — the kitchen and the master bath. Both of these areas were gutted. The designer explained, "The house was already great, but the breakfast area is a part of the family room, so the homeowners wanted to open the kitchen up to that space to make it bright, interactive, welcoming. They desired a warm palette for the kitchen but were really attracted to all these white and black stones. We found a spectacular white marble with a large deep rich rust-colored vein running through

