

Qualified Remodeler

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Effective Impact

A thoughtful addition melds two buildings together while achieving a unified appearance and improving the character of each existing structure.

by Royal Oaks Design with Pillar Homes

AFTER touring a model home, the two sons of the homeowners across the street fell in love with a sport court and insisted the family needed one at their own house. With both of the boys playing lacrosse and basketball, the owners were soon determined to build an addition to their detached garage. The family had lived in the house for only a year and were eager to make changes to accommodate their lifestyle.

The remodeling plans began with envisioning a sport court connected to the garage and evolved into creating a bonus room above it as well, with a hallway connecting to the existing home on the second floor to allow for easy access. Not only did the addition of the hallway help unify the home aesthetically and functionally, but the exterior of the new hallway was also designed as an archway to blend the new and old details and serve as a focal point to the entrance of the home.

The biggest challenge was minimizing the visual impact of the transformation. A gable-ended addition to the garage and half-story bonus space above allowed for the sport court and a large entertaining space. Without appearing too massive from the street, the design team wanted to bring the scale and proportion in relation to the existing buildings. A wide dormer over the garage accomplishes this goal and also maximizes the floor area and use of space. A bridge creates an interior connection between the home and the upper level.

Other challenges were the limited footprint of space and not making it appear as an add on. With tight setbacks and height restrictions, every inch mattered in the use of design. The challenges were overcome by frequent site visits and ensuring that



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COMPANY INFORMATION

Royal Oaks Design
Lake Elmo, Minn.
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Pillar Homes
Plymouth, Minn.
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PROJECT INFORMATION

Project name:
Cottage Makeover
Project location: Wayzata, Minn.
Square footage: 1,299
Project cost: \$250,000

PRODUCT INFORMATION

Roofing: CertainTeed
Windows: Pella