



Dickson Development Corporation
A Tradition of Innovative Quality Construction

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Building Success 101

Q: Do you need a painter?

A: From time to time we add or change trade partners. These professionals may also be of assistance to work directly with our clients. We have begun working with:

Jonathan Shenk,
Greenleaf Painters,
LLC - 212 South Mill
Road, Princeton
Junction, NJ 08550
- 609-314-6953 -
[Email](#)

If you have the need for Greenleaf Painters' services please call Jonathan and tell him you are a Dickson Development client.

Turning Dreams into Reality

Your dream home may not be as far from reality as you might think. As you look at today's homes, with their wide choice of features and finishes, options and upgrades, you may feel overwhelmed. Here's a method for sorting out what is most important to *you*.

As you begin to think about a new home or how you can renovate your present home take time to create a wish list of what you'd *like* to have and a separate list of what you *must* have to meet your family's needs.

The "wish" list allows you to dream, while the "needs" list keeps your feet on the ground. The process of creating the lists establishes expectations, minimizes impulsive decisions, and fosters an objective balance between fantasy and reality. Together, your lists create the foundation for a focused search and the ultimate discovery of the house that best suits your lifestyle, going a long way toward assuring your satisfaction now and long into the future.

Consider the following guidelines to get you started:

Keep separate lists. Maintain individual "wants" and "needs" lists. Separate lists will help you recognize what you really *need* and help you prioritize everything else.

Take your time. Keep both lists open for brainstorming sessions as well as random thoughts. Put time aside to add to your lists. The goal: explore and weigh alternatives as part of the process of building your dream home. As builders, we find that it is easier to provide clients with exactly what they want when they come prepared with clear ideas.

Start a clip file. Supplement your lists with photos and articles from magazines, newspapers, and online resources to reinforce and illustrate your ideas, providing even greater detail for our design professionals.

Think outside the kitchen. In addition to the "glamour" rooms, keep in mind storage areas, laundry and service rooms, and family and entertainment spaces. These 'additional spaces' are vitally important to the comfort of your family and critical to your ultimate satisfaction.

Community considerations. If building a new home consider what you want and need regarding the environment around your ideal home, drive time or distance from services and amenities and proximity to family and friends. Documenting such preferences will help you narrow the choices

of general location or community for your new home. In addition, list the daily tasks and recreational activities you like (and perhaps don't like), both in your home and within the surrounding area, to help further define the features of your home and its setting.

List your don'ts. Keep track of the things that annoy you about your current house (as well as homes you've lived in, seen, or visited over the years) and promised yourself to avoid or change. If you are building a new home now is a chance for a fresh start, so take advantage of the opportunity. If you are renovating your present home this is the chance to transform your home to meet your present and future needs and desires.

Upon completing each list to your satisfaction, take an objective look at what's really needed and what you're willing to trade-off, for whatever reason. Prioritize each list and eliminate items that you know are unrealistic or unnecessary. Then transfer low priority items to separate lists of wants and needs that you can hope or plan for in the future.

By the time you are finished, what started as a rough collection of your dreams has evolved into a clear-cut set of expectations and priorities. At the same time, you have created a guide for our team of professionals that will be of great assistance in the creation of a home that meets your lifestyle and reflects all that you hoped for in your house.

The work that you do in preparation for working with us as design professionals is part of the process we want our clients to follow when we begin the design process for building or renovating your home.

Warm regards,

Richard

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