

HOMES 5



EVERETT & SOULE



PSG CONSTRUCTION

Operation Renovation sweeps the kitchen out of the 1950s (above) and into the 21st century (left). Fresh features include a cooktop bar, Shaker-style cabinetry in warm tones, granite countertops and a trivention oven.

House doctor takes dose of own medicine

PSG's Stephen Gidus finds the right prescription to update his cozy cottage.

By TERESA BURNEY
SPECIAL TO THE SENTINEL

Stephen Gidus' company, PSG Construction, often remodels mansions for the rich and famous.

But the remodeler chose to go cozy cottage for his own 1,600-square-foot home in Orlando's Rowena Park.

"That's why we chose this house" for the Remodelers' Showcase, says Gidus, "because it's more mainstream. It's what our average client is looking to do — gut it and bring it up to new condition."

The three-bedroom, two-bath 1950s home was like tens of thousands across Central Florida — simple, unassuming, well-built, but lacking in modern amenities and wow factor.

Outside, Gidus barely changed the home's footprint, adding only a more gracious front porch, and new elevation features, to give the home more balance and presence, and a smidgen of craftsmanlike details.

REMODELERS' SHOWCASE

Builder: PSG Construction.

Address: 1700 Gay Drive, Orlando.

bath. A third bedroom became a his-and-hers office. And the laundry room received a makeover to make room for a

front-loading washer and dryer as well as a tiny shower at the back door just right for washing dirty feet or small pets.

The biggest change came in the kitchen. First, a wall between the kitchen and living-dining area was pulled down and replaced with a cooktop bar. Then, Gidus swiped space from the adjacent garage to push the kitchen walls out a bit, allowing for an island and a pantry.

The kitchen appointments are clean and sleek. Shaker-style cabinetry in warm tones is offset by stainless appliances and granite countertops. Central Kitchen and Bath helped with that design.

There's a wide refrigerator, a ceramic cooktop with a down-draft vent that rises out of the bar top at the touch of a button, and a trivention oven — a combination microwave, convection and conventional oven.

"We haven't even read the manual on that yet," says Gidus.

But one of Gidus' favorite kitchen features is low-tech. A cabinet next to the door to the garage has drawers that serve as a stop-and-drop spot for purses and other things brought in from the car. Cords for cell-phone chargers feed through the top of the cabinetry down to a four-plug outlet so those too can be dropped at the door and charged with little fuss.

The adjacent dining area has a built-in bar with a serving counter, a hutch, a wine refrigerator and a refrigerator drawer. "That gave continuity between the kitchen and the dining room," says Gidus. "No matter how big your refrigerator is, you never seem to have enough space."

Jennifer Haddock of J. Haddock Interiors worked with the couple on the home's interior design.

Gidus says the home is perfect for him and his wife. But he's already thinking of expanding for a family-to-be. "I've got plans on my desk," he says.



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Nip and tuck: The face-lift replaces a wall between the kitchen and living-dining area with a stylish cooktop bar.