

A Midcentury modern with views (and more views) of Lake Sammamish

Going with the Flow



The terrace expands living spaces outdoors. The boathouse at lake's edge has been converted to a cabana with an outdoor shower.

THERE ARE MANY ways to determine whether a home remodel was successful. Or not.

Here's one, an adoring public. "We have a gate that we have to close quite often because we get people off the street," says Jackie, surprised but not altogether displeased.

Her family's new contemporary is quite striking when viewed from the road that wraps their Lake Sammamish neighborhood. But the lookie loos don't know the half of it, what lies behind the large frosted-glass front door that anchors a two-story glass entry.

"The goal was, hopefully, that wherever you're standing you can see the lake," says Chris, Jackie's husband, "Before, we couldn't go room to room to room. We talked a lot about flow."

Oh, there's flow. From the large and comfortable kitchen (with both a long granite counter and banquet table that seats 10) to the elegant but comfortable living room, over to the intimate and inviting dining table. Floors are a rugged hewn African plains plank. Walls are glass. The lawn is sloping. The blue, blue lake is everywhere, in every room.

Chris' family has long traveled the corporate trail: They've had homes in Virginia, Florida, Texas. This time, however, the move was a short one, from the Issaquah Highlands.

"We looked at this as a personal refresh," Chris says. "This is totally different for us: Our style is a little bit more conservative." ▶



Interior designer Scott Cates called for this basalt fountain in the new entry courtyard. It offers a peaceful welcome and a buffer to road noise.

Owners Chris and Jackie found all the choices that come with a major remodel overwhelming, so they turned to Tobiason Cates Design Service. "They are an active executive family," says Nancy Tobiason, "so we needed interiors that were beautiful but also supported an active family."



"They were height conscious. We're all really tall," says Chris of the contractors and placement of counters. The kitchen encourages gathering and out at both the counter and at the walnut banquet table, which can seat 10. The light fixture is from Arteriors.

wenge. The banquet table is rustic, its seating black leather. Modern, but soft. Chris has an exercise room. Jackie a master suite off the living room. Everybody has the lake, from the bedrooms down to the boathouse turned cabana.

"I don't have this kind of vision," says Jackie of the result. "The whole team was so patient. It is more beautiful than I thought it would be."

Originally, (of course) plans called for a new kitchen and bathrooms. But the original (albeit well-loved) Midcentury modern had issues. "You start looking at the electrical and plumbing," says Chris. "There were draining problems, and it tilted."

Down to the studs it went. The new house is bumped out waterside and pulled up streetside. Original cedar and mahogany were saved and reused. Something old, something new.

"The house makes me want to be more meditative," says Jackie, reaching for the tea. "I want to be able to sit and appreciate my day. The children are all-consuming, and I have four of them; two kids, Chris and Dallas (the family Labradoodle). This forces me to stop." ■

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The master bathroom offers the comfort and luxury of a five-star hotel.



The goal for the new house? "Hopefully, wherever you're standing you can see the lake," says Chris. To see a drone-shot video of the home go to: <http://bit.ly/1MOhi8N>.



When the couple found the old house on the shore of Lake Sammamish, three things attracted them: "The lot, the views and the modern style of the original house," Chris says. "Our style is a little more conservative. We looked at this as a personal refresh."

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Quitting their previous preference family sold off almost everything only clothes and dishes. And they didn't even know they wanted, the hands of professionals: architect Piper Cole Architects; builder Mil West; interior designers Scott Catson of Tobiason Cates Design Ser

Coaxing conservatives into concrete task. The interior designers while in their old house. Jackie w master suite. Chris didn't want to garage anymore. Or carpeting, no because they really do entertain, ers, multiple ovens and a tall-per hood (Chris is 6 feet 4). Oh, and room for the kids, who are old en

The result? A home that, once it be lived on one floor: 6,000 square six baths. Furnishings are lush and (root beer, really), jewel-toned accents of chartreuse, velvet on the sofa. A deep Macassar ebony and vertic