

# HOLIDAY HAVEN

*Create a home you'll love  
throughout the year*

*By Susan Worley, photo courtesy of Owen Signature Homes*

**W**ith the holiday season approaching, many homeowners are preparing their homes for entertaining. From Halloween to winter break, this time of year is often the busiest—full of family events and entertaining. It is also when many homeowners lament their lack of space, older appliances, or mantle that can't accommodate a large stocking for Santa to fill.

Many Sacramento residents are finding that although they love their location, their homes require an upgrade. While some homeowners need an entire rebuild, others find that remodeling will yield many ways to complement their lifestyle. The following projects reflect some of the latest home entertaining developments and designs.

## Kitchens

Thanks to a combination of colors, unique wall treatments, intricate floors, and custom countertops, the kitchen is becoming the most inviting room in the home. New innovations in appliances, warming and dish drawers, built-in rice steamers, integrated coffee makers, and custom ranges with unusual hoods and backsplashes create a multitude of upgrade opportunities and help create the perfect place to prepare your holiday meals.

## Home Theaters

From a dark-theater experience complete with popcorn machines and soda fountains, to plasma screens that are hidden from view when not in use, home theaters are the perfect place to watch movies, sporting events, or play video games with family and friends.

## Home Offices

With innovations such as wireless Internet access, Voice-Over-Internet-Protocol (VOIP) telephone systems, and stereo systems that integrate iPods, working at home has never been easier. A home office allows the homeowner to slip away from entertaining to check email or even order a last-minute gift or two!

## Children's Rooms

Custom storage solutions and safety are priorities when planning a child's room. Window nooks and built-in storage, art areas with

drying racks and gift wrapping stations, and nurseries with built-in baby monitors or video surveillance are often incorporated into children's play areas.

## Game Rooms

Housing such items as pool and air hockey tables, pinball machines, dart boards, poker tables, and ornate bars, game rooms often reflect themes ranging from favorite sports teams to a dark video arcade.

## Master Suites

Many homeowners dream of a refuge away from work and other social engagements. Bedroom suites are often designed to showcase a

gorgeous view or open onto an outdoor living area, creating an opulent oasis. These suites seamlessly blend into dressing areas and spa-like bathrooms, offering a resort experience in the privacy of your own home, and a great way to unwind.

In the end, whether creating a home from the ground up or remodeling an existing residence, noting what your needs are and incorporating your unique taste and style into your plans will help create a home you'll enjoy throughout the holidays and for years to come.





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