

Mission Possible

By Christine Hanlon • Photography: John Johnston



At first Chris and Darlene Macey thought they might be asking for the impossible. It was June when they decided their August visitors would not be sleeping on air mattresses strewn across the main floor. But the basement was unfinished, and compromising on the design was not an option.

"We called several places and All Canadian Renovations was one of the few that called back," recalls Darlene Macey. "Mike and Tony came down right away. They took care of everything." Mike Kerr spearheaded the project and All Canadian promptly started working on executing the design Russell Knister of Streamline Designs had drawn for the Maceys.

When the couple realized their plans for stainless steel clad posts were beyond their budget, Kerr proposed an exciting alternative. "All Canadian showed us photos of in-post art niches with accent lighting," explains Chris Macey. He and Darlene immediately fell in love with the idea.

For the ceiling, Kerr was able to turn the functional needs of hiding the basement's pipes and beams in an aesthetically balanced and appealing cascade of





curved bulkheads. “We had originally designed a certain layout for the ceiling, but it had to be modified to work with what was there,” says Chris Macey. “The way it turned out is even nicer than what we had planned.”

To further soften the lines, corners are rounded throughout. A curved wall with an art niche leads to the guest bedroom. Complete with a round stand-up cocktail table, the curved bar continues the look. Even the transition between the carpet and the dance floor is curved. “It’s perfect for a party,” notes Darlene Macey.

That said, the guest bathroom was an important consideration. Designed to accommodate existing plumbing, the original design would have seen the shower, sink and toilet all within three feet of one another. “People are often surprised when we suggest breaking the cement floor so we can modify the plumbing any way we need to,” says Kerr. “But it’s not a problem.” Thanks to this approach, the bathroom perfectly highlights the long trough sink with which Darlene Macey fell in love when choosing the fixtures. A drywall niche with wood accents provides storage without breaking the flow of the room.

“Darlene has a discerning eye and the All Canadian team was certainly as picky as she is,” laughs Chris Macey. “Mike and Tony take a lot of pride in their work.”

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