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SHOWCASE

# SEASIDE MAKEOVER

HOW REMOVING A WALL CREATED A DRAMATIC, CAPTIVATING VIEW

BY MARY THURMAN YUHAS | PHOTOGRAPHY BY AMBER FREDRIKSEN PHOTOGRAPHY



**ABOVE: THE RESIDENCE'S LIVING ROOM, POST-REMODEL, BOASTS STRIKING VIEWS OF THE GULF OF MEXICO.**

**M**arc and Carlene Petersen decided they would purchase a seasonal home in the desert town of Tucson, Arizona, as it was a direct flight from their longtime Omaha, Nebraska, residence. However, when things didn't go according to plan, the newly retired couple visited Naples. "We fell in love the minute we got here," says

Marc. "It was the weather and the golf, and the people are very friendly and nice."

In 2005, the Petersens moved into an extensively remodeled unit in Gulf View Beach Club, a 32-unit boutique condominium built in the early 1980s and situated directly on the beach.





**FROM TOP: THE KITCHEN RECEIVED A SIGNIFICANT MAKEOVER WITH CHEF-WORTHY COMPONENTS THROUGHOUT, INCLUDING LUXURY APPLIANCES AND A DURABLE, MAN-MADE QUARTZ COUNTERTOP; VIEW OF THE DARK KITCHEN PRE-REMODEL; THE NEW DINING ROOM DECOR.**



Still in the same condo and still enamored with Naples, the couple recently decided they were ready to modernize their two-bedroom, second-floor residence. Research led Carlene to Jinx McDonald Interior Designs; after an initial meeting, the Petersens promptly commissioned the Naples-based firm. Chrissy Howard, lead interior designer, and Barbara Schwenk, interior designer, lent their talents to the successful remodel of the seaside dwelling.

“The main priority of this remodel was to open up their two-bedroom condo to the spectacular Gulf of Mexico view and create better functionality throughout the home while lightening up the space,” explains Howard. Another priority was using some of the clients’ existing artwork, favorite furnishings, and rugs.

Before work commenced, the homeowners showed the design team various units in the building to see what others had already done. “We took an idea from here and there and got the best of all worlds,” imparts Schwenk.

The design team worked alongside August General Contracting, who did the heavy lifting, like tackling plumbing and air-conditioning issues that often surface in condominium renovations. The team had to abide by strict homeowner association rules, such as completing all renovations between the first of May and the end of





CLOCKWISE FROM TOP LEFT: REMODELED FOYER, LIVING ROOM VIGNETTE, AND PRIMARY BEDROOM; THE PRIMARY BEDROOM PRE-REMODEL.

October. “Proper planning and working with reliable subcontractors always helps,” adds Howard.

Removing a wall between the living room and primary bedroom suite produced immediate and dramatic results. Along with opening and brightening the great room in the 2,634-square-foot space, the wall’s removal also allowed the owners to enjoy spectacular views from their bedroom. When desired, a large sliding door encloses the space.

“We now have a perfect western sunset view,” says Marc, sharing that they never tire of watching the spectacular solar show they are privy to most evenings.

To create the classic and timeless design aesthetic the clients requested, the designers selected a floral Scalamandré fabric displaying colors of blue, coral, and rust. Visible on the two dining chairs and on one of the living room armchairs, the textile became the inspiration for other decor. Once the desired color scheme was in place—with walls of pure white—coastal tones were added to the mix.

Because Carlene enjoys cooking and baking for family and friends, the kitchen also was given a significant makeover. No longer dark, the cheerful, chef-worthy space boasts a durable, man-made quartz countertop. A blue herringbone tile backsplash above the cooktop breaks up the white walls while a louvered cabinet on the island adds a coastal feel to the room. Luxury appliances include a Sub-Zero refrigerator and Thermo-





# RESIDE



CLOCKWISE FROM INSET: POST-REMODEL GUEST AND PRIMARY BATHROOMS; PRIMARY BATHROOM PRE-REMODEL.



dor range. Three white LED pendants of rippled glass in an organic shape hang overhead. “Carlene requested a special cabinet to house her mixer—it can be pulled up to counter height with the island,” relays Schwenk.

With the clients’ directive, the sink was moved. Rather than stare at a solid wall while at work in the kitchen, a pass-through window now

allows one to see through to the great room and the subsequent view. “We also added a new kitchen entrance,” states Howard.

Another unique space is the guest room/ sewing room, where Carlene designs and sews quilts. When guests arrive, the sewing table folds up to become a cabinet and a comfortable Murphy bed unfolds from the wall.

At the reveal everyone was thrilled with the outcome. “We are very pleased and can’t think of anything we would change,” says Carlene. “This was a collaborative effort. We all worked together as a cohesive unit, so everything turned out better than expected,” says Howard. ◀◀



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