

# AKB NEWS



**ATLANTIC**  
*Kitchen & Bath*

## Atlantic Kitchen & Bath Summer Newsletter

A little about AKB: Atlantic Kitchen & Bath specializes in custom kitchen and bath designs as well as renovations, sunrooms, closet systems, outdoor kitchens and any type of remodeling, addition or restoration needs. Give us a call today at 302-947-9001 to schedule an appointment or look us up on the web at [www.AtlanticKB.com](http://www.AtlanticKB.com)

### Special Announcements

- In this issue:**
- AKB announcements
  - Take a seat
  - Great ideas to update your living room
  - Cookout corner
  - Some of our recent remodels
  - Time for BBQ
  - Top recommendations
  - Advice from the Pros

- ◆ **Mike McCoy** joined us in March as our new Design & Selection Manager and has quickly become an integral part of our team. He has been reworking our current selection center to make the selection process easier and he has been adding more vendors so that we have more to offer our customers. If you are looking for a re-model are not sure exactly what you want, come in and see Mike. His background in interior design as well as his knowledge of construction and selection coordination will help to get you started.
- ◆ AKB will be moving to our new showroom location on Coastal Highway sometime this summer. If you visit or live in the area you have probably seen our new sign. Watch for our Grand Opening!



## You Dream It and We Can Build It

### Take a Seat!

You know that wasted space you have in parts of your home—like your owner’s suite, dining room, morning room; the area in front of a lovely window that only collects dust and spider webs because there is no way to enjoy the view? We have some easy remodeling ideas that can liven up that wasted space and create an area for you to relax, enjoy the view, have some coffee or catch a few winks. Check out our collection of photos and think about the areas in your home where you would consider a small project like this.

Let us know how we can help you!



## 10 Great Ideas for Updating your Living Room.

As the place you go to unwind, chat with friends and family, and entertain, the living room has to walk the line between great style and utter comfort — not always such an easy task. Whether your living room just needs that finishing touch to bring everything together or a bit more help, these decorating ideas can create a space you will be proud to show off *and* happy to come home to.

**1. Get the right-size rug.** A plush rug underfoot feels comfortable and welcoming — and when it comes to living room rugs, bigger is definitely better. A rug that all your furniture can sit on is ideal, but at least the front feet of each main piece of furniture should be on the rug. If you already have a too-small rug, you can always layer it on top of a big (less expensive) solid color or natural fiber rug in a neutral hue.

**2. Customize your shelving.** A wall of shelving, whether custom-built or free-standing, is useful and makes a design statement. Floor-to-ceiling shelving also works surprisingly well in a small space since one large, perfectly fitting piece makes a room look more spacious and less cluttered than multiple smaller pieces would.

**3. Style up surfaces.** A mix of three elements — flat, vertical and organic — is what you need to create arrangements that go above and beyond the usual stack of books. Try this formula to style surfaces like console tables, shelves and coffee tables.

**Flat:** Books, trays, platters, textiles

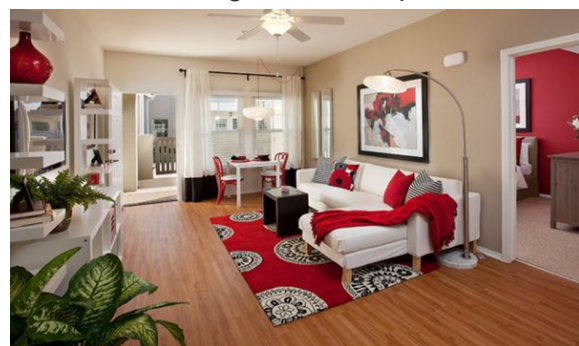
**Vertical:** Framed art, vases, sculptures

**Organic:** Flowers, plants, driftwood, stones, shells



**4. Try a new sofa shape.** The shape of your sofa sets the tone for the living room. Higher, more structured sofas are generally more formal, while lower, squishier sofas tend to give a more laid-back vibe. Low modular sofas (like the one shown here) are perfect for lounging and can be reconfigured to suit the activity. You could face them all one direction for movie night, for example, but turn them to create multiple conversation areas for a party.

**5. Give your old couch a new look.** Instead of splashing out on an all-new sofa, you could give your old couch a makeover instead. Check with the manufacturer to see if any slipcovers are made for it; if not, you can hire someone locally to create a custom slipcover for you. Or, for a really quick change, take a gorgeous textile and drape and tuck it over the back of your couch and add matching throw pillows and a few more matching color accents.



## On time and within budget!

*Denise / June 2016—We have contracted with Atlantic Kitchen & Bath to design and build an extensive kitchen renovation for our home. So far, it has involved multiple design and planning consultations with the AKB team. The project timeline with the AKB team has been very pleasant. The appointments for our business were set-up quickly and were on time. Which is not an ordinary occurrence for Sussex County. I also like that AKB uses BuilderTrend.com. I can track the progress of our project. The cabinet order was already posted on the site and our signed documents loaded. Sunny, Mike and Mark worked closely with us to design and pick the product choices for our kitchen. They presented differing taste and ideas. This part of the project they did well as a team. They made it seamless and fun. We will do a final review when the project is complete some time this summer.*

# Charming

**6. Tighten up the color palette.** A well-defined color scheme can make your living room look cleaner, more organized and intentionally designed. Decide on one background neutral color, one feature color and a smaller accent hue, then get to work ridding your space of any items that don't fit within your selections.

**7. Trick out your console table.** A console table is good on its own, but it can be even better with a few smart additions: a pair of stools below for extra seating, drawers with dividers or natural fiber baskets to stash mail and other necessities, add pottery for visual interest, and a light to shine down on it all.



**8. Go to the dark side.** One charcoal or black wall is enough to bring your room into focus, without overwhelming the space. Bonus: If you paint the wall behind your flat screen a really dark hue, it will make your TV do a disappearing act.

**9. Layer textures.** If your living room still just doesn't feel quite finished, texture could be the issue. Adding in layers of texture is often what gives a room that livable, comfortable feeling. Mix and match from these textures to complete your living room:

**Soft:** Knit throw or pouf, cashmere blanket, mohair throw, velvet pillow covers, faux fur

**Natural:** Handmade ceramics, driftwood, stones, raw wood, burl wood

**Shiny:** Glass vases, mirrored surfaces, shiny metal, Lucite

**Rough:** Linen, burlap, natural fiber rugs such as jute or sisal, sea grass or wicker furniture

**Smooth:** Leather pouf, leather sofa or chair, polished wood

**10. Expand the space with a massive mirror.** A large mirror is, in essence, like adding another window to your room, making your living room feel lighter and more spacious. Boost the effect even more by positioning plants or a lamp in front of the mirror to reflect the colors of the room and amplify the light.



**Have a project in mind? Give AKB a call and get started. What are you waiting for?**

*We hired Atlantic Kitchen & Bath, LLC to install a new kitchen in our home in Lewes. They showed up when they said they would, were professional and created an amazing new space for us to enjoy. We could not have asked for more. We highly recommend them.*

*Cathie / June 2016*

*Remarkable*

## Weekend Cookout Corner

So cooking out is a great way to socialize and enjoy wonderful food. We can help with your entertaining needs with a new outdoor kitchen. Check out our wish list on HOUZZ. We are sharing a few of our recipes for a “fajita night” cookout. We hope you try this and enjoy it. These recipes are fast, fun and **they taste amazing!**

### Fajitas

1 medium size flank or skirt steak (pounded)  
4 boneless skinless chicken breasts  
3 assorted colored bell peppers sliced  
1 large sweet onion sliced  
In 2 separate zip bags marinate the chicken and steak in 1/4 cup of Margarita Mix (that’s right the liquid mix with no alcohol) . You can use “fajita seasoning mix” or mix together equals parts of cumin/paprika/chili powder/turmeric and smaller amounts of salt and pepper and pour in the bags. Let the meat marinate for at least an hour before putting it on the grill. After seasoning veggies with salt/pepper and lime juice spray just a little non stick coating over them and give them a toss before putting them on the grill in a grill basket. Once everything is ready just layer the sliced meat and veggies in a soft tortilla and add whatever you like—our preference is guacamole, salsa, and a little sour cream

### Grilled Corn with Queso

6 ears of fresh corn with the silks removed and some shucks remaining attached. Rinse thoroughly. Tear 6 sheets of heavy aluminum foil—into squares. Salt/Pepper and lightly butter the corn then squeeze a wedge of fresh lime over the ear. Pull the husks back over the ears of corn and lay crosswise on the tinfoil. Add 1 medium size ice cube then roll the foil around the corn and twist off the ends. Cook the corn on the upper rack of the grill if the grill is around 400 degrees. If it is 300 or less they can be cooked on the bottom rack. The secret is turning them every 3-5 minutes. Turn quarterly on the grill—takes about 20 minutes. When serving, squeeze more lime juice, sprinkle with chopped cilantro and crumble fresh queso cheese on top then sprinkle with chili powder.

### White Sangria

3 tablespoons raw sugar  
3 shots Calvados or other apple liquor (or Tequila if preferred)  
Juice of 1 lime and 1 lemon  
1 lime, sliced  
1 lemon, sliced  
2 firm ripe peaches, cut into cubes  
2 ripe green apples seeded and cut into cubes  
1 7.5 liter bottle of “cold” white Pino Grigio wine or other dry white wine  
1 can of ginger ale or sprite if you prefer

Mix with 1 cup of cubed ice—crushed melts too quickly into the mix. Stir and let stand for at least 5 minutes and stir again before serving



# Delicious

April, May and June of 2016 turned out to be very busy months for AKB. We are growing and adding more offerings to our cabinetry, flooring, countertop, tile and other lines to give our customers more design options for their remodeling projects. We have just completed several beautiful remodeling jobs so check out our photos on HOUZZ. Whether you have a medium or large remodel or need a complete renovation, we can design and build to suit your needs.

Keep us in mind if you have a friend or family member who needs remodeling work done. We have a great referral program and you could receive a \$250 gift card if you refer someone to us who signs a remodel contract. If you need more information or a copy of the referral form, contact Sunny at 302-947-9001 or email her at Sunny@Atlanticde.com

Watch for the Grand Opening of our new Design/Selection Center on Coastal Highway!

*Carl / June 2016—Mark came out to give an estimate for granite counter tops, new sink and faucets. Arrived on time which is a pleasant surprise in Sussex co. Found him to be very professional and the work when completed was to our liking. I also used him for a glass shower door. He came back to fix a cabinet in kitchen where he installed glass fronts that had come apart 3 years later. He did so at no charge and again arrived within a day of us calling the office. Would use him in for any updates.*

*Here are some of our recent projects .....*



*Check us out on Facebook or visit us at [www.AtlanticKB.com](http://www.AtlanticKB.com)*

**302-947-9001**

## It's Time for BBQ!

Now that the cooler weather is leaving and the sun is finally shining – it's time to get outdoors and enjoy summer. One of the best ways to do this is to have a barbeque outside.

Barbecue is a New World invention and the term was actually derived from the Spanish word "barbacoa" which was used to describe the wooden structure on which the people of South America roasted their meats. Until the middle of the 20<sup>th</sup> century, outdoor cooking in the US was largely for campers with campfires. By the 1940's new inventions in grilling including a collapsible charcoal cooker and a smaller table top type charcoal grill. But grilling actually became an American classic pastime with the invention of the Weber Kettle grill in 1952 invented by George Stephen. This invention offered a convenient, cleaner alternative to cooking over an open flame. Now modern day gas grills are more sophisticated than ever and there is no shortage for consumers to find the perfect grill as well as outdoor refrigerators and other appliances to suit their individual needs. More and more people are enjoying the outdoor living that comes with cooking and dining on patios or porches. If you are thinking about a remodel you will want to put things in it you like for your own enjoyment.

An outdoor kitchen can provide the perfect living extension for your home and give you hours of pleasure cooking and entertaining. Atlantic Kitchen & Bath can design and build the perfect outdoor kitchen to suit your individual needs. Give us a call today to set up an appointment for a free estimate. 302-947-9001

*You could have a lot of fun with an outdoor kitchen!*



*20684 John J Williams Hwy, Suite 1 / Lewes*

## Contractor Tips: Top Home Remodeling Recommendations

If you are considering a remodel – whether large or small, what you do is just as important as what you don't do, and sometimes a homeowner's instinct can negatively affect a home renovation project. These are just a few thoughts for you to ponder no matter what phase of remodeling you are in.

**<sup>a</sup> Don't delay decisions.** If you want your remodel to go well, the best thing to do is make every single decision before work starts. A good builder/contractor can talk you through the list of situations that might come up on your job. Most of the issues are related to decisions about things like paint, trim and faucet selection that need to be made before the job starts. These may seem small, but when your faucet is two weeks late because you couldn't make up your mind about which one you wanted, then plumbers have to be rescheduled and the medicine cabinet door hits the faucet when it's installed. You'll see how something small can balloon into a week's delay on a five-week project.

**<sup>a</sup> Don't change your mind (too much).** Even though it's inevitable that you'll change your mind about something on your project, know this: Every time you change your mind, it results in a change order. Although the change may seem minor, there are always added costs — even if it's only the time spent discussing the change.

Scheduling can be affected too. Everyone working on the job needs to be informed of the change so no one's working on the old plan. Everyone makes changes, and that's OK — just be aware of the potential to disrupt and delay the job.

**<sup>a</sup> Don't buy your own materials.** It seems like an obvious way to save money — a builder is going to mark up the cost of materials and pass that added cost on to you. That's true, but the builder may get a better price than you to begin with, meaning that even after markup, you'll pay the same price.

**<sup>a</sup> Don't put lipstick on a pig.** Though a builder will rarely come right out and say this, some walls, flooring or even entire houses should be knocked down rather than have money put into them to fix them up. Though this is a rare situation, it's common for people to put money into fancy cabinets for a house with a sagging foundation, or into a high-efficiency furnace in a house without insulation. Listen to the professionals who come to look at your job. Be open to their suggestions.

**<sup>a</sup> For a major remodel, don't live in the home.** Most people ignore this rule, and for good reason. Remodeling is expensive, and moving out just adds to the cost. If you can't move out for the whole job, try to schedule some time away and set up a clean, comfortable place to retreat to when you can't handle coming home to a messy and stressful construction site.

**<sup>a</sup> Don't be a distraction.** It may sound harsh, but every minute someone working on your house spends talking to you, they are not working on your house. Is the conversation important and one that will have an impact on the job? That's one thing, but the electrician on the job isn't getting paid any more to spend 30 minutes talking about your vacation plans.

**<sup>a</sup> Don't ignore what the house wants.** Though some people can pull off wearing a pair of high-top sneakers with a tuxedo, it can also go horribly wrong. Houses are the same way. Can an ultramodern kitchen in a Victorian brownstone work? Absolutely, but make sure you can pull it off. This is not to say a house can't evolve with the times. There are no hard and fast rules — just get to know your house, live in it and do your research. Talk to an architect or find a building contractor that has a design/decorating person to work with you to ensure your upgrade suits your house.

Whatever you do, don't start a major remodel without a detailed plan and a competent builder/contractor. A lot of elements interact in a space and you will want to have everything incorporated for your remodel before you get started. You may be able to build a functional space without a plan, but if you want a functional *and* beautiful space, hire a designer or work with a builder who can help you with the design work. (Feature from HOUZZ – 2016)

**So, start a remodel with us; we have all the building/remodeling tools you need to envision, develop and build your project.**

**Call us at 302-947-9001**

*I received fantastic service and workmanship from Atlantic Kitchen & Bath! They remodeled two of our bathrooms - a job requiring demo, plumbing, tiling, countertops, and crawlspace work. All of their work used the highest quality materials and techniques. They finished the job promptly and with great attention to detail. Their crew was adept and efficient in a range of skills, and were always polite and respectful of our home. I highly recommend Atlantic for bathrooms, and any other home related work (and new home construction) projects.*

*From Mark and Sunny to every member of the crew, we received 5 star service.*

*Michael / June 2016*

# *Informative*

## *Good Advice From Some Top Designing Professionals*

- ◇ *Injecting personal style and items with a story are what turn an average room into a stunning home.*
  - ◇ *Instead of always following the latest design trend, decorate with timeless pieces you love.*
  - ◇ *Avoid impulse buying by working within a tight colour palette and plan carefully to ensure the finished scheme works as a whole.*
  - ◇ *The best interiors are those that take you and your lifestyle into consideration.*
  - ◇ *If one is guided by a designer, take their advice – don't play safe.*
  - ◇ *Be brave enough to be yourself and trawl the trends for what you love, not what's fashionable. That way you'll still love your home next year, and the year after, and the year after that too.*
- Don't worry about what others will think. Design the room the way YOU want. Surround yourself with things that make you happy; things that hold lasting memories for you.*
- ◇ *Quality always matters. It will cost more to have to redo or replace, so make sure you are working with the best people and highest quality products.*
  - ◇ *Try to really push your own boundaries. Your home is the place to experiment and create those wacky ideas you have in your head that will pull all the elements you like together.*
  - ◇ *Don't leave the lighting until last, it can make or break a room.*

*Benjamin Franklin said:  
"A place for everything and everything in its place."*



*[www.AtlanticKB.com](http://www.AtlanticKB.com)*

*Why Wait! Stop by and see us today at Atlantic Kitchen & Bath.*

*20684 John J Williams Highway, Suite 1 / Lewes, DE 19958*