



Homefront

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After the hustle and bustle of the daily grind, we all deserve to come home to a luxurious place to unwind. Your home's bathroom, although often overlooked, can be your personal oasis.

While planning a bathroom makeover, it's best to start from the ground up. The floor is the priority, because it's the most permanent part of the room. Options range from luxury vinyl, to natural stone, to porcelain or ceramic tile, to marble. Tiles and marble may have a higher price tag, but they are durable and long-lasting. Vinyl on the other hand, is a lesser expensive option for a remodel, with the intent to sell. The right style and color of flooring can also make a bathroom feel much larger than it is. A light-colored marble floor with a thin,

Making Your Bathroom into a Relaxing Retreat

complementary-colored vein adds luxury, while also keeping the space fresh and airy.

Cabinetry is the next step in the remodel design and has the potential to be the largest cost in your budget. A cost-saving alternative is to give your current cabinets a facelift with a

coat of bright, white lacquer. Another option is to reface your current cabinets. This involves replacing or upgrading the cabinet door and drawer fronts and retaining the cabinet base. If the existing cabinets can not be maintained, there are many styles to choose from, including custom-made wood cabinets, oak panels washed in white, mirror-on-mirror treatments, warm pecan-stained oak, contemporary metal drawers or soft frosted glass panels.

Selecting the countertops is your next step. Often times, marble or granite can be purchased at a discount from a stone scrap yard.

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email the expert

Question: I was just looking at the inside of my dishwasher the other day, thinking it needed a good cleaning. Any tips? Thank you, Libby Mutter

Answer: When your dishwasher is looking or smelling funky, first clean the filter according to the manufacturer's directions. Then, use white distilled vinegar to deodorize the inside and dissolve water spots. Pour 2 cups white vinegar into a bowl and sit it upright in the bottom rack. Run the machine through a short wash cycle and it will be clean, deodorized, and ready to run!

You can email the Expert by sending your questions to info@feltonantrim.com. Please be sure to include your name and phone number in case additional information is required to answer your question.

THANK YOU FRIENDS FOR YOUR REFERRALS

We cannot thank enough everyone who has referred Felton Antrim Construction to their friends or family this past month. Your kind actions are really what make us a success. While we don't have enough room to mention everyone, here are a few:

Mr. and Mrs. Warner referred the Hall Family
Mr. and Mrs. Hernandez referred the Rivera Family
Mr and Mrs Salazar referred the Tucker Family

Would you like to have the nicest home in the neighborhood?

Do you know we are experts in a variety of home improvement projects? If you're considering a new project for your home, please give us a call. We'll be happy to answer all of your questions and provide you with our expert advice for free.

Here's a list of some of the projects we specialize in:

Kitchen Renovation
Bathroom Renovation
Sunrooms
Room Addition

famous quote

"Your success and happiness lies in you. Resolve to keep happy, and your joy and you shall form an invincible host against difficulties."

- Helen Keller

You Must Ask Yourself, "Is it Worth the Savings?"

When completing a new construction project or renovation, there are certainly ways to be cost-efficient without huge compromise. Ultimately, the deciding factor should be whether the savings is worth it.

The sayings, "You get what you pay for," and "You might as well do it right the first time," have good merit. Often times, what is "saved" initially, costs double down the line.

The biggest shortfalls a homeowner can make paying for sub-standard work or scrimping on finishes. The difficulty with finishes are, they are last and usually about the same time the budget is running low. The best advice, is to set a firm budget from the beginning. Look for sound ways to save, including bargains on materials; such as: pipes, lumber, and wiring. When possible, incorporate the use of salvaged materials, provided these materials are safe and meet the need for the job.

By saving on materials no one can see, more of your budget can be reserved for quality workmanship and the finishes. Although most people feel anyone can paint, this is another big, "you get what you pay for." Professional painting, high grade flooring, and other finishes are things you will be looking at day after day.

The savings is in having the work done properly the first time and enjoying the view of the finished project.

Did You Know?

- According to tradition, babies born on the first of the year grow up to enjoy the luckiest of lives, bringing joy and good fortune to those around them.
- The use of a baby as a personification of the new year has been traced to ancient Greece, where an infant in a basket was paraded around to mark the annual rebirth of Dionysus, the god of wine and fertility.
- In Spain and several other Spanish-speaking countries, people bolt down a dozen grapes—symbolizing their hopes for the months ahead—right before midnight.

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Laminate or Formica are other great options, which will give you similar look to marble or granite at a fraction of the cost.

The finishing details and accessories have the ability to take a nicely remodeled bathroom and make it into your luxury get-away.

Hardware is a simple way to add your personal touch and style. Whether it's modern with clean lines or old and vintage, it's about what makes you happy.

Let the sunshine in! A skylight may be just what you need to allow natural light into your space. A skylight is also quite private.

For windows that need a covering, bamboo or other natural fibers add tranquility and warmth, while allowing natural light to pass through.

Turning your bathroom into your personal retreat is all about reflecting your style, attention to detail and selecting the right materials.

trivia challenge

People around the world have been celebrating the start of each new year for at least four millennia. Who were the first to make resolutions for the new year?

- A. Romans B. Egyptians
C. Mayans D. Babylonians

The first correct answer faxed to 602-258-6032 or emailed to info@feltonantrim.com will be this month's winner of 2 Movie Passes at Harkins Theater.

The world's largest Christmas present was the Statue of Liberty. It was given it to the US in 1886. It is 46.5 meters high and weights 225 tons! Which country gave this wonderful gift?

Answer: France



WE WELCOME OUR NEW FRIENDS INTO THE FELTONANTRIM FAMILY

We believe in treating all of our customers like family, just ask any of our longtime customers. We are excited to welcome each of our first time **Felton Antrim** customers. We appreciate the opportunity to serve you and hope to see you again very soon. Here are just a few of the new members of the family.

- Cindy Warner of Phoenix
- Marcio Hernandez of Phoenix
- Sharon Nichols of Sun City

Thank you and welcome to everyone who recently joined our Felton Antrim family... we couldn't do it without YOU!

REFER YOUR FRIENDS & FAMILY AND GET A \$50 GIFT CARD

Many of our customers "find" us as a result of word of mouth. This simple, yet gracious, act by our customers has allowed us to be successful. For this generosity, we offer our gratitude and a token of our appreciation through our Referral Reward Program!

Here's how:

1. Simply refer someone to our services by sharing our name, phone number, email or by giving them this newsletter.
2. Ask them to mention your name.
3. When your referral becomes our client we will automatically mail you a \$50 **Home Depot** gift card.

When you refer your friends, neighbors or family, you've helped our business grow. Offering you this reward is our way of letting you know just how much we appreciate your actions

Remember to tell your friends to mention your name whenever they use our services!

WHAT OUR CLIENTS ARE SAYING...

"From start to finish we felt like our project was in good hands. Our only regret is that we didn't have this done while our oldest son was still living at home with us. Thanks to you though, we can still enjoy it with the other children."

- Tony & Patty Dawson

Sudoku Puzzler

The Rules of Sudoku (sūdoku²)

The classic Sudoku game involves a grid of 81 squares. The grid is divided into nine blocks, each containing nine squares.

The rules of the game are simple: each of the nine blocks has to contain all the numbers 1-9 within its squares. Each number can only appear once in a row, column or box.

The difficulty lies in that each vertical nine-square column, or horizontal nine-square line across, within the larger square, must also contain the numbers 1-9, without repetition or omission.

Every puzzle has just one correct solution.

9	1		6			
7			1	5	4	6
4			7			2 3
	6	9				7
	4					6
3					8	5
5	3			8		9
6		7	4	1		5
				5		8 1

For the solution to this issue's Sudoku Puzzler, email us at info@feltonantrim.com

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**Green
 Tip**

Save Money without Spending a Dime - It's easier than it sounds to save money while being green: unplug electronic equipment you aren't using; turn off the lights; lower your heat and wear an extra sweater. Switching from chemical cleaners to homemade baking soda/vinegar combos can save you \$600 a year, and taking public transportation saves countless money on gas.