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Trends in Home Design **Multi-Use Rooms Leave Media Rooms in the Dark**

Not so long ago, a media room in your home made the statement that “you had arrived” and were truly living the good life. Think about it, a plush, movie theater experience in the comfort of your own home.

Well, that was “yesterday”. The latest trend - a “multi-use” room - expands upon that media room with additional components to create a more versatile space for activities of all ages.

The construction and design experts at Masters Touch are not only “media room veterans”, but they know what it takes to create the perfect multi-use room in a home.

According to Doug Masters, founder of Masters Touch, “A multi-use room is much more popular than the limited media room, as it has a media space, but it’s also meant to be more of a family fun room. Yes, you’ll still have the enormous TV, surround sound and plush seating arrangements, but a multi-use room is designed so no single activity area takes center stage.”

When considering a multi-use room, visualize it by first determining the various functions it will have. Perhaps you’d like part of the room to be a home office or computer area for the kids. Another part of the room might be used as the adults’ entertaining area, which may be complete with a full bar and cabinetry. The media area would need to be expanded upon for older children and teens so it may include pivoting chairs around the big screen for “gamers”, a large coffee table for board games, and plenty of floor cushions.

Since the space should also accommodate young children, factor in a designated area for toys and arts and crafts. In these areas, storage space is ideal, so consider installing bookcases, cabinets or incorporating furniture such as storage ottomans or benches. Are the kids too old for a toy area? Maybe they’d prefer darts or an air-hockey or pool table.

If you’re not building new but renovating, the basement is typically designated as the multi-use room because of the amount of space. And, because it’s the basement, there may be even more elements within the area that you may want to enhance or add to. For example, you may decide that your multi-use room must have a full or half bathroom built off of it.

“A multi-use room should be functional for every member of the family. Whether you’re entertaining your colleagues or your child is hosting a large slumber party, it’s a space that should cater to many different needs,” explained Masters.

The Masters Touch

With a team of more than 50, including architects, interior designers and project managers all working together, Masters Touch can handle all of a client's home building or improvement projects and provide expert guidance to DIY folks.

Masters Touch was founded by Doug Masters in 1997. From high-end design and build projects; kitchen and bath renovations; exterior painting, roofing and siding projects to flooring, interior painting and decorating projects, Masters Touch caters to homeowners throughout the Metrowest area.

Masters Touch is a Showcase Priority Dealer for Hunter Douglas and offers professional design and installation service. The one-stop interior design and home improvement shop also offers Marvin and Harvey windows; six lines of custom and semi-custom cabinetry; over 150 types of granite and Corian countertops; paint; carpet; hardwood and tile flooring; home theater design and installation and much more.

The company offers written warranties on all their work. Masters Touch is located on Route 109 in Medfield, MA. For more information contact 508-359-5900, e-mail info@masterstouchweb.com or visit www.masterstouchweb.com.