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Mudroom *Makeover*

Cozy Cape Cod vibes and farmhouse simplicity elevate this renovated mudroom.

By **Laura Shimko**
Photography by **John Cole**
Design by **Anthony Wilder Design/Build, Inc.**



When it comes to best using the space in your home, sometimes you have to think outside the box. In this 1980s Bethesda, Maryland home, the homeowners had big goals for their overall renovation, and the mudroom was part of that. They reached out to George Bott and Shannon Kadwell of Anthony Wilder Design/Build, Inc. to create their dream home.



ROOM WITH A VIEW

To start out, George and Shannon had to examine the entire layout. With three children, the homeowners wanted to expand the size of the laundry room/mudroom within the floorspace of the original kitchen. "We moved the laundry room to where the kitchen was to capture a larger space, and then moved the kitchen to the back of the house in order to get better views of the backyard, as well as adjacency to the dining room, formally the living room," George says. This rework of the floorplan, part of a much bigger rework of the first floor, provided all the necessary changes to allow the homeowners the space, and views, they wanted.

Once the big architectural piece was solved, Shannon, a Kitchen, Bath and Mudroom Designer, got to work designing the space to meet the functional and aesthetic needs of the homeowners. "The mudroom needed to work as a multi-functional space: a laundry room, a kitchen pantry storage, and the winter clothing and sports gear for the family needed to be tucked away," she says. "Their dream was

to always have a pleasant view of the mudroom—not to be forced to close a door on it, even when entertaining guests."

COZY & FUNCTIONAL

The abundance of cabinetry from floor to ceiling and wall to wall provides perfect storage opportunities. "A well thought out storage map was designed to show where current and future items may be placed in the drawers and cabinets," Shannon says. "This helped the client envision how the new spaces would function, as well as give peace of mind that everything had a spot and is accounted for."

Drawing from the Cape Cod feel outside and inside the home, the homeowners opted for green cabinetry and checkered floor. "The client was unafraid of color and wanted to use it to inspire a calming and welcoming feel to the space," Shannon says. "Using the green on the cabinetry and a black and white checkered floor was a charming and whimsical way to show the client's artistic and fun side."

above | The flooring transitions from wood in the kitchen to tile in the mudroom. "The flooring marble tile in the mudroom took some time to find," Shannon says. "The honed white and black marble with hand-cut edges had to be custom created for the perfect blend and timeless feel."

opposite | One of the primary functions in a mudroom is providing additional storage opportunities, especially for families. The team worked hard to ensure there was plenty of thoughtful places for this family to keep all their items organized and accessible. "There is now abundant storage, including bench seating and a good mix of upper, base and pantry cabinets," George says.

To learn more about Anthony Wilder Design/Build, Inc., visit them at anthonywilder.com.



From Outdated to *Outstanding*

Learn how one family added function and style to their 1980s home.

Written by **Kelly McMaster** | Photographed by **John Cole**
Designed by **Anthony Wilder Architecture**

How do you make an outdated 1980s home functional and aesthetically pleasing for a family of five? We asked George Bott, AIA, of Anthony Wilder Design/Build, Inc. in Maryland for all the details on this stunning transformation.

"The clients wanted a lot," George says, "but their main goal was to keep the charming farmhouse feeling of their house with its Cape Cod features. That's what they originally fell in love with."

The family needed more space for the children to spread out since all three were sharing one bathroom and two bedrooms. In addition, they wanted to expand the kitchen, add more storage, add a walk-in pantry and make a better connection to the backyard. The master bedroom also lacked closet space and the bathroom was cramped.

All these problem areas were addressed with creative

planning and reconfiguration of spaces. The team at Anthony Wilder Design/Build, Inc. even added an office in the basement and a family room off the back of the house with access to an existing screen porch. "On the back addition, we used painted fiber cement siding, trims and panel material for its low maintenance and durability, an upgrade over the existing home's rotting pressboard siding," George says.

The addition of a portico and a new front door with a transom window brought light into a dark entryway while the garage was extended to accommodate two cars. The portico and upgraded front door elevated the character of the façade, and the home now fits in beautifully with the exteriors of the neighborhood homes. The upstairs dormers, brick front steps and flower boxes add so much character, it is hard to believe this home was ever as outdated as a 1980s hair band!

**TO SEE THE NEW MUDROOM OF THIS HOME, TURN TO PAGE 12.
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