Remodeled

TOUR PRESENTED BY

FEATURING THE 2017
REMODELED HOME TOUR
PRESENTED BY NARI

COVER COURTESY OF

T. HURT
Construction
REMODEL + CUSTOM HOMES
Entry No. 2 and No. 5
SEE PAGE 2 FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

TOUR PRESENTED BY

NARI
Remodeling Done Right™
GREATER OMAHA

METROPOLITAN UTILITIES DISTRICT
Planning a Remodel?

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Natural Gas Appliances

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The National Association of the Remodeling Industry (NARI), the only independent association dedicated to the remodeling industry is a not-for-profit trade association with more than 50 years of industry experience. NARI represents professional remodeling contractors, product manufacturers, distributors, wholesalers, trade publications, utilities and lending institutions. NARI is committed to enhancing the professionalism of the remodeling industry and serving as an ally to homeowners.

NARI members have access to the latest information in the industry through publications, educational programs and seminars, and conferences.

The NARI professional remodeler pledges to uphold the association’s strict Code of Ethics and is dedicated to advocate professionalism and integrity.
On the Cover

T. Hurt Construction is a locally owned and operated construction company. Founded in 1994 by Terry Hurt, T. Hurt Construction is a State of Nebraska licensed contractor (registration #23404), and has been awarded the BBB Honor Roll for excellence in customer service since 2003.

For more than 20 years T. Hurt Construction has specialized in residential and commercial remodeling, as well as custom home building. Creative structural and design solutions combined with outstanding customer service and uncompromised attention to detail ensure clients will have a pleasurable remodeling and building experience.

• Whole House Remodels
• Custom Home Construction
• Outdoor Living Spaces
• Lower Level Spaces
• Custom Kitchen & Bath Remodeling
• Additions & Garages
• Commercial Remodels

T. Hurt Construction

REMODELED HOME Tour
PRESENTED BY NARI
APRIL 1 & 2, 2017

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8529 Wirt Street • Omaha, NE 68134 • 402-510-9585
www.thurtconstruction.com

“Pleasurable Remodeling & Building Experiences!”

Cover Photo by:
Thomas Grady Photography

Cover Photo by:
Thomas Grady Photography
The goal of the National Association of the Remodeling Industry (NARI) is to help homeowners find the right professional partner to do their remodeling. Whether it is updating a kitchen to make it more efficient, turning an ordinary bathroom into a haven of rest and relaxation, or adding a room to meet the needs of a growing family, NARI wants each homeowner to get the maximum value or enjoyment for the dollars they invest in their remodeling.

NARI membership means that a professional is a full-time, dedicated remodeling expert. NARI membership requires its members follow a strict Code of Ethics, and there is a grievance process that can be pursued when they do not.

Homeowners can be assured that any time they hire a NARI member, they are hiring an individual who has made a strong commitment to the professionalism of the remodeling industry and to his or her business.

NARI members have access to the latest information in the industry through publications, educational programs, educational seminars and conferences.

You can use the Buyer’s Guide on page 52 of this magazine or the “Find a NARI Professional” tool at omahanari.org to find a NARI member to create your dream space.

Each member of the National Association of the Remodeling Industry is pledged to observe high standards of honesty, integrity and responsibility in the conduct of business by:

• Promoting in good faith only those products and services which are known to be functionally and economically sound, and which are known to be consistent with objective standards of health and safety.

• Making all advertising and sales promotion factually accurate, avoiding those practices which tend to mislead or deceive the customer.

• Writing all contracts and warranties such that they comply with federal, state, and local laws.

• Promptly acknowledging and taking appropriate action on all customer complaints.

• Refraining from any act intended to restrain trade or suppress competition.

• Obtaining and retaining insurance as required by federal, state, and local authorities.

• Obtaining and retaining licensing and/or registration as required by federal, state, and local authorities.

• Taking appropriate action to preserve the health and safety of employees, trade contractors and clients.
When you are ready to remodel your home, make sure you keep this handy checklist close by!

- **Write It Down**…walk through your home and write down all the dreams you have for it.
- **Cut It Out**…find pictures in magazines of tile, paint colors, cabinets, countertops and appliances that you like.
- **Plan It Out**…figure out your financial resources so you know how much you can spend on a remodel project.
- **Call the Best**…look to Omaha NARI for your best resource for professional, ethical and experienced remodeling companies, subcontractors and suppliers.
- **Define the Details**…your remodeling proposal and/or contract should be comprehensive and include product descriptions, start and approximate completion dates, payment schedule, change order procedures, warranties, and alternative dispute resolution clauses.
- **Keep Your Perspective**…remodeling can be disruptive to your normal household environment. Take a deep breath, keep your focus and work with the remodeling contractor or subcontractor for the end result.
- **Celebrate the Dream**…invite your family, friends and neighbors to see your new remodeling project…and start dreaming about the next one!

**NARI**
NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF THE REMODELING INDUSTRY
Remodeling Done Right.
GREATER OMAHA
How important is it for my remodeling contractor to be licensed and insured?

It’s very important. Licensing and insurance are required in the City of Omaha and many surrounding areas. Ask for proof of licensing or call the issuing municipality to verify the license. For insurance, ask for a proof of insurance or call the insurance company with whom the contractor is insured to verify coverage.

There are so many from which to choose. How do I select my remodeling contractor?

It’s best to employ a home improvement contractor with an established business in your area. Local firms can be checked through references from past customers in your community or through your local Better Business Bureau. Local remodelers are compelled to perform quality work that satisfies their customers for their business to survive. Many states, but not all, require contractors to be licensed and/or bonded. Contact your state or local licensing agencies to ensure the contractor meets all requirements. Ask the remodeling contractor for a current copy of their license. You can also check with the government Consumer Affairs Office and the Better Business Bureau to ensure there is no complaints on record for the contractor. Ask to see a copy of the remodeling contractor’s certification of insurance for the name of his or her insurance agency to verify coverage. Most states require a contractor to carry worker’s compensation, property damage and personal liability insurance. Make sure the contractor’s insurance coverage meets all the minimum requirements.

How much should my remodeling project cost?

This really depends on the size and scope of your project. The materials chosen, the size of the room, and age of the infrastructure can all impact the project cost. Remember when you are comparing bids, that you are comparing the exact same scope from each contractor. If a price comes in that looks too good to be true, it probably is. How much value will my remodeling project add to my home? This also depends on the scope of your project, and you may be surprised which projects add the most value.

How long should my project take?

Again, this depends on the size and scope of your project, and what is found during demolition. Unforeseen problems can crop up once walls are taken down that require additional work. Ask your remodeling contractor for the most reasonable time-frame and stay in touch with him or her as the project progresses, so you can plan for a finish date.

Should I plan more money than the contract price?

Additional work or a change in the project requested by the remodeling homeowner usually require a contract price change. Planning for the unforeseen is wise, though, so putting aside an extra 10% over the contract price makes for a less stressful remodel.

How many estimates should I get for a remodeling project?

You can go about the process in different ways. Conventional wisdom dictates three estimates for any remodeling work you are going to have done. However, if a home improvement contractor comes highly recommended by a trusted source, and you have met and talked with the contractor and feel comfortable working with him or her, getting additional estimates may not be necessary.

I have three different estimates, and the prices vary greatly. Why?

There are a number of different factors that go into pricing a remodeling project. Be sure that every estimate has the same scope of work. If the estimates are vague and you cannot interpret that information, go back to the contractor for clarification in writing. If you are unable to get adequate written clarification, it may be wise to eliminate that remodeling contractor from the bidding process.

What can I expect to do while a remodeling project is being done in my home?

Most importantly, keep the lines of communication open between you and the remodeling contractor and the work crew. Ask questions. Let them know what your family schedule is and whether you have pets confined somewhere. It’s important to keep the work areas off limits to children and pets for their safety; however, you may have a little extra dust and dirt in your house, so keeping the work area off limits will avoid them tracking the dust to other parts of the house.
YOUR HOME SAYS A LOT ABOUT YOU.
WE’RE HERE TO LISTEN.

Your home is a reflection of you. Ferguson’s product experts are here to listen to every detail of your vision, and we’ll work alongside you and your designer, builder or remodeler to bring it to life. Our product experts will help you find the perfect products from the finest bath, kitchen and lighting brands in the world. Request an appointment with your own personal Ferguson product expert and let us discover the possibilities for your next project.

Visit FergusonShowrooms.com to get started.
CALLING IT BEAUTIFUL DOESN’T EVEN SCRATCH THE SURFACE

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- All commercial and residential construction
- Commercial and residential construction of four stories or less
- One and two family dwellings

**Class B Contractors**
- Residential additions and remodels (international residential code only)
- Roofing, Siding, Decks, Windows, Doors and Fences

**Class C Contractors**
- Plumbing
- Big Birge Plumbing
- Platinum Plumbing, Inc.

**Class D Contractors**
- Electrical
- B.C.S. Brazilian Granite
- Bob "the Builder" Grice, LLC

**Class E Contractors**
- Heating, Ventilation, Air Conditioning- Sales & Service
- DuctMedic

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**Hardware mouldings, stair parts and finishes**
- Taylor Made Home Solutions

**Interior Design Consultants**
- Artisico
- Creative Interiors by Libby
- Habitat for Humanity ReStore

**Insurance**
- Quinn Insurance Inc.

**Interior Design**
- Johnson Hardware Co.
- Kate Le Tile & Stone
- Lowe's of Papillion

**Insurance**
- Southern State Insurance

**J.D. Remodeling**
- EF Contracting
- FIRE & WATER RESTORATION

**Jill of all Trades**
- Mr. Granite, LLC
- Jill of all Trades

**Just Right Construction, Inc.**
- Kustom Homes, Inc.
- Just Right Construction, Inc.

**K & J Remodeling**
- Emeryville Remodeling
- Hills Remodeling

**K & J Remodeling**
- B.C.S. Brazilian Granite
- Bob "the Builder" Grice, LLC

**K & J Remodeling**
- EF Contracting
- FIRE & WATER RESTORATION

**Kitchen Remodeling**
- B.C.S. Brazilian Granite
- Bob "the Builder" Grice, LLC

**Lumberyards/Building Suppliers**
- Builders Supply Co., Inc.
- Habitat for Humanity ReStore

**Lumberyards/Building Suppliers**
- Builders Supply Co., Inc.
- Habitat for Humanity ReStore

**Midwest Remodeling**
- Sustainable Home Remodeling
- Palm Harbor Supply

**Midwest Remodeling**
- Sustainable Home Remodeling
- Palm Harbor Supply

**Modern" Remodeling**
- Habitat for Humanity ReStore
- Palm Harbor Supply

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**New Construction**
- Cherry Ridge Construction, Inc.
- Highrock Design, Build, Remodel
- Todd Menard Construction, LLC

**Office and Retail Remodeling**
- Highrock Design, Build, Remodel
- Todd Menard Construction, LLC

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**Painting**
- Jill of all Trades
- KLP, Inc.
- Stafford Painting

**Painting Contractors**
- Jill of all Trades
- KLP, Inc.

**Painting Services**
- Jill of all Trades
- KLP, Inc.

**Painting, Staining & Wallpapering**
- Jill of all Trades
- KLP, Inc.

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**Plumbing**
- Paul Davis of Omaha
- Plumbing Fixtures & Fans
- Ferguson Enterprises, Inc.

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- Materials Distributor
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Omaha, NE 68137
402-333-4321

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Omaha NARI believes in giving back to the community in which members live and work. Each year, the Omaha NARI chapter has community involvement where financial contributions and volunteer time is provided to many local organizations and charitable events in the Omaha Metro community.

This past October, local members of the Omaha NARI chapter gathered materials and volunteers to provide facility updates for the South Omaha Victory Boxing Club, as part of their commitment to give back.

The project involved installing multiple LED lights to cover the sides and rear of the building, as well as replacing the two side door lights with new LED lights, donated by Echo Commercial Lighting, replacement of two broken window panes (installed by Bratetic Construction, Inc.), installation of bathroom partitions (donated by OHARCO, Inc.) and a new toilet provided by the local Home Depot for the girls restroom. All electrical work was provided by local NARI member, Rick Peterson of Universal Electric and his electrical crew.

Omaha NARI Community Service Committee
Chris Kudlucz, Contractors Siding, Window & Roofing Supply
Dan Reuting, Echo Systems
Mike Quinn, Quinn Insurance, Inc.
Welcome to the NARI Remodeled Home Tour

Thank you for taking part in the 2017 Remodeled Home Tour presented by The National Association of the Remodeling Industry (NARI) of Greater Omaha. We are truly excited to share our members' hard work and quality craftsmanship.

We hope you have enough time to visit each project. One of the great things about this tour is that it gives you a chance to meet the contractors and see their work. Our NARI contractors have all pledged to abide by a strict code of ethics and are committed to integrity and ethical practices in their businesses. This is a great place to start if you are thinking about doing a remodel or even to get remodeling ideas for projects down the road. We are confident you will find a highly skilled and qualified NARI professional right here in our community.

NARI is committed to the overall well-being of the remodeling industry through promoting professionalism, education and advocacy. We strive to be a beacon for homeowners looking to find a qualified remodeling professional along with being dedicated to our membership through government advocacy and industry research. NARI University provides our members access to business management courses and current trends, ensuring the most professional experience for you as the homeowner.

As an organization, we strive to help our members succeed and we wouldn’t be where we are today without a committed membership and many years with a strong, talented Board of Directors. The Greater Omaha NARI Remodeled Home Tour would not be possible without our member sponsorships. And once again, a huge thank you to our presenting sponsor Metropolitan Utilities District, M.U.D., who truly makes this tour possible each year.

I’m very proud to be a member of such a great organization. I appreciate the continued support and dedication of our membership through the years. Thank you all for your participation and for each contribution to making this another successful year. Enjoy the tour!

Remodeled Home Tour Committee

Aaron Bryant, Ferguson Enterprises, Inc.
Michele Shearer, Habitat for Humanity ReStore
James Hartkorn, LeafGuard by Midlands Home Solutions
Karri Buglewicz, Metropolitan Utilities District
Sara Lorenz, UDCP, T. Hurt Construction
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T. Hurt Construction
Remodel + Custom Homes

Cambria

CKF

Ferguson Bath & Kitchen Gallery

Kitchens & Baths by Briggs

Premier Decorative Plumbing

Taylor Made Home Solutions

Window Innovations

Echo Systems

Universal Electric

McKeans Floor to Ceiling

The Window & Door Store

NewsRadio 110 KFAB

Englert LeafGuard

Premier Decorative Plumbing by Briggs
# Planning a Remodel in Your Home?

Use this matrix to find tour homes that showcase the type of remodel project you are looking to complete. 

*Then see the map on the following page to plan your route!*

<table>
<thead>
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<th>TOUR SITE MATRIX</th>
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*Omaha Home Maintenance*  
15120 Sahler Street, Omaha, NE 68116

*T. Hurt Construction*  
2715 N 161st Avenue, Omaha, NE 68116

*Sanwick Remodeling Contractors, Inc.*  
14227 Frances Street, Omaha, NE 68144

*Hintz Construction Inc.*  
4364 S 152nd Circle, Omaha, NE 68137

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*T. Hurt Construction*  
7720 Walnut Street, Omaha, NE 68124

*Hubby Home Improvement*  
5560 Mayberry Street, Omaha, NE 68106

*C & H Construction*  
10985 N 60th Street, Omaha, NE 68152

*Bratetic Construction, Inc.*  
277 E Baronage Drive, Blair, NE 68008
April 1 & 2, 2017
12:00 pm to 5:00 pm
Tickets are $10.00
and available at each home featured.

$1.00 from each ticket sold will go to benefit
MAKE-A-WISH®
Nebraska

PRESENTING SPONSOR

METROPOLITAN
UTILITIES DISTRICT

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NARI
NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF
THE REMODELING INDUSTRY
Remodeling Done Right®
GREATER OMAHA
1 **Omaha Home Maintenance**  
15120 Sahler Street, Omaha  
From W Maple Rd., turn north onto N 150th St. Turn left onto Sahler St. Home is on the right.

2 **T. Hurt Construction**  
2715 N 161st Avenue, Omaha  
From W Dodge Road, go north on 156th Street to Spencer Street. Turn left onto Spencer Street and go west to 161st Avenue. Turn left onto 161st Avenue and house will be on the left side.

3 **Sanwick Remodeling Contractors, Inc.**  
14227 Frances Street, Omaha  
From S 144th Street, turn east on Pine St. Turn right on S 143rd Street. S 143rd Street turns into Frances Street. Home will be on your right just past Frances Circle.*  
*Please do not park in circle

4 **Hintz Construction Inc.**  
4364 S 152nd Circle, Omaha  
From Q Street turn north onto 156th Street. Turn right on Hillsdale and then turn right on 152nd Circle. The house will be on your right.

5 **T. Hurt Construction**  
7720 Walnut Street, Omaha  
From Pacific Street go south on 78th Street to Walnut Street. Turn left onto Walnut Street and house will be on the left side.

6 **Hubby Home Improvement**  
5560 Mayberry Street, Omaha  
From I-80 take the 60th Street exit and go north. Turn east on Pacific Street then turn north onto S 57th Street. Turn east on Mayberry Street and home will be on the left.

5 **T. Hurt Construction**  
7720 Walnut Street, Omaha  
From Pacific Street go south on 78th Street to Walnut Street. Turn left onto Walnut Street and house will be on the left side.

6 **Hubby Home Improvement**  
5560 Mayberry Street, Omaha  
From I-80 take the 60th Street exit and go north. Turn east on Pacific Street then turn north onto S 57th Street. Turn east on Mayberry Street and home will be on the left.

6 **Hubby Home Improvement**  
5560 Mayberry Street, Omaha  
From I-80 take the 60th Street exit and go north. Turn east on Pacific Street then turn north onto S 57th Street. Turn east on Mayberry Street and home will be on the left.

7 **C & H Construction**  
10985 N 60th Street, Omaha  
Take the 72nd Street exit from I-680. Go north on 72nd Street to Hwy 36, turn right/east and follow Hwy 36 to 60th Street. Turn left on 60th Street and head north approximately 1/2 mile to 10985 N 60th Street. Look for signs!

8 **Bratetic Construction, Inc.**  
277 E Baronage Drive, Blair  
From the intersection of Highway 30 and Washington Street in Blair, NE, head east on Washington Street which is the Main Street in Blair. Turn left (north) onto N 16th Street. Continue on N 16th until you cross Adams Street where you veer slightly to the right to stay on N 16th Street, entering the Baronage Valley Subdivision. Turn right (east) onto E Baronage Drive and the home will be on your left.
This project involved a second story deck tear down and a complete rebuild, which would consist of a new 34 by 14 foot composite deck. The homeowner supplied a black set of metal spiral stairs and the deck was built to accommodate this curved feature. The infrastructure was designed with a series of treated 6 by 6 timbers and 2 by 12 stringers. The posts are rested on pyramid blocks supported by 48” concrete footings. The pyramid blocks provide an attractive means of elevating the posts above the surrounding surface thereby, protecting it from decay.

The decking is a beautiful pecan colored composite material from the TimberTech Legacy Collection. The railings are a series of cables from the TimberTech CableRail system, with the 4 by 4 posts trimmed in TimberTech black. The spiral staircase takes one complete turn and ends under the deck.

The entire perimeter is accented with a series of recessed lights controlled by a low voltage timer.
OHM (Omaha Home Maintenance) is proud to provide home repair services to Omaha and the surrounding area, for all kinds of home projects and repairs. We appreciate every returning customer and work hard to maintain a loyal customer base. We do this by committing ourselves to the highest standards of professionalism and making sure you have an excellent customer experience.

We’re committed to giving all of our customers the personalized service they expect; from window and door replacement, to siding repair, decks, trim wrapping and handyman services. Our goal is to earn your trust by giving you exceptional service so you’ll refer us to your family, friends and associates.

We are licensed, bonded and insured as well as a member of the BBB.
Removing a tired peninsula creates a cohesive transition from the kitchen into the family room. New hand-scraped, distressed oak wood flooring throughout the main level unifies and updates the home. The addition of crown molding, freshly painted trim and cabinets is refreshing, and contrasts with the wood tones and warm grey color of walls and furnishings.

A multi-purpose island is central to the kitchen’s work activities. Whether preparing, cleaning, socializing, serving or dining, expansive countertop space provides limitless options. Traffic patterns are directed around the island, maintaining the kitchen’s working triangle on one end, and passage to living or dining spaces on the other.

Whether preparing, cleaning, socializing, serving or dining, expansive countertop space provides limitless options.
At T. Hurt Construction we ensure a pleasurable remodeling and building experience, and make customer satisfaction our top priority. We have experienced craftsmen on staff and use only the best sub-contractors and suppliers.

T. Hurt Construction specializes in the following:
- Whole House Remodels
- New Construction
- Lower Level Finishes
- Custom Kitchen and Bath Remodeling
- Additions and Garages
- Commercial Remodels

T. Hurt Construction has been awarded NARI CotY Awards for the following projects:

2016 – Regional Winner – Residential Addition
$100,000 to $250,000

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Regional Winner – Residential Kitchen Under $40,000
Regional Winner – Residential Exterior Specialty

2011 – National Winner – Home Theater/Media Room Under $150,000

2010 – National Winner – Residential Historical Renovation/Restoration

2009 – Regional Winner – Residential Interior Under $100,000

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- B.C.S Brazilian Granite
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- Ferguson Enterprises, Inc.
- Floors By Dave
- The Home Depot
- Johnson Hardware Co.
- Lowe’s
- Nebraska Furniture Mart (appliances)
- Pella Windows & Doors of Omaha and Lincoln
- Premier Distributing of the Midwest, Inc.
- Taylor Made Home Solutions
- Tom Manley Floors, Inc.

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13827 Industrial Road    |    Omaha, NE 68137    |    402.330.3400    |    www.kbbriggs.com
This project began with a very disturbing phone call, “Todd, my house caught on fire and we don’t know what we’re going to do”. I went to look at the home right away and the damage was extensive. Between fire damage and water damage from putting out the fire, almost every room had to be renovated, including the entire kitchen, three bathrooms, three bedrooms, family room, dining room, office, laundry room, garage, entry way and much of the exterior of the house and roof. Because so much had to be redone, I pointed out that this was a great opportunity for the couple to create their dream retirement home, and they agreed. They wanted to keep the Cape Cod style on the exterior of the home, but make changes to the interior to make it more stylish and functional.

So Sanwick Remodeling Contractors got to work and in addition to repairing all the damage from the fire, they significantly updated the rest of the home, including all new windows and doors, lighting and electrical, rustic wood floors, high efficiency furnace, and roof. For greater convenience, the office was relocated to the old laundry room and a new laundry/mud room was created where the old office was, complete with a convenient new exit to the outdoor bar and pool area. Upstairs, the master suite now has an impressive master closet and a redesigned master bath with relocated entry, heated tile floors, double vanity, granite shower seat and countertop.

The amazing new kitchen has beautiful custom cabinets, quartz countertops, a spacious island and high-end appliances including a microwave drawer and double oven. The kitchen also features a unique NanaWall, a folding glass wall system, which opens to the incredible backyard and pool area.
Thank you to our wonderful long-time customers and employees who have given us our solid foundation of experience and expertise for the past 17 years, as well as new clients placing your trust in us today. We take great pride in our strong ethical philosophy and have made it a priority to always be fair and honest. Our commitment to delivering quality residential and commercial remodels at a reasonable price and on schedule, and our continuous drive to exceed your expectations are even more important to us today than when we began in 2000.

Company president, Todd Sanwick, is Omaha’s only current Certified Graduate Remodeler (CGR). Todd is also a Certified Aging-in-Place Specialist (CAPS) and is the only Omaha remodeler to hold both designations, CGR and CAPS. Obtaining the education to achieve these exclusive professional designations further sets Sanwick Remodeling apart from others in the industry and is additional evidence of our commitment to professionalism and reliability, and dedication to quality.

- City of Omaha Licensed Class B Contractor
- Certified Lead Renovator
- Nebraska Certified Green Builder
- NARI Greater Omaha Chapter Board Member, 2014-2016
- NARI Greater Omaha Chapter Contractor of the Year, 2011-2012
- Better Business Bureau Integrity Award Winner, 2007
- Omaha Chamber of Commerce Small Business of the Month, July 2009

Lisa and Todd Sanwick, CGR, CAPS

This spectacular home is now modern, but warm and inviting, and can hopefully inspire you to create your own dream home.

NARI TRADE PROFESSIONALS:
Builders Supply Co., Inc.
City Glass Company
Echo Systems
Ferguson Enterprises, Inc.
Lowe’s
Millard Lumber, Inc.
Nebraska Furniture Mart
Pella Windows & Doors of Omaha and Lincoln
Premier Distributing of the Midwest, Inc.
The Home Depot
Tom Manley Floors, Inc.
Home Technology:

A Blessing or a Burden in the Remodeling Process?

Written by Doug Dushan, Senior Sales Consultant at Echo Systems

As an AV integrator for nearly two decades, I recall countless instances where a contractor grudgingly contacted me near completion of a project to sprinkle in a last-minute television or audio system. In many cases they were convinced that their clients “weren’t interested in anything special”. On closer evaluation, I often learned that the contractor simply dreaded the inclusion of technology because of a bad experience in the past. Many consumers share this same negative impression of AV integration.

The robust U.S. housing market in the early to late 2000’s saw a flood of AV integrators coming into the marketplace. These integrators came in all shapes and sizes, and all levels of experience, or lack thereof. Often there was an overriding agenda common to many of these technology providers. The “where do you want your stuff” mentality was rampant. Selling as much expensive equipment as possible often without any solid plan for ongoing customer support or concern for system integrity. Rarely was the typical integrator in that era concerned with how the technology fit into a home’s aesthetic. The goal was to make a sale and move to the next customer in line. As a result, remodeling contractors were frustrated by the process and left with mediocre technology in their client’s homes.

The Great Recession of 2007 was painful for many Americans. Unfortunately, for many remodelers and their clients, support for the technology in their recently renovated homes evaporated. There was no one to call with knowledge of how their homes were wired and no one to call when things stopped working. It’s a wonder home technology ever rebounded from that collective experience. Yet, today we see a smart tablet in nearly everyone’s hand.

It is these very devices which all of our clients possess, that help us answer the question to the title above; Is technology a blessing or a burden in the remodeling process? The simple fact is that home technology is a vital part of nearly every home today. Wireless networks, 4K Televisions, surround sound, Bluetooth devices, tablets, security systems, video cameras, wireless thermostats, etc.. Clients today expect these products and conveniences in conjunction with a remodel.

Before you despair there is good news. Technology has significantly evolved. When properly implemented there are products and systems on the market today that can actually make the lives of your clients easier, more aesthetically appealing and more sophisticated, not more cumbersome, like before.

No longer are consumers tied to rotary volume knobs on the wall. We live in a golden age for home technology. Wherein the same smartphone that you use to work and stay connected also controls access to your electronic lifestyle at home.
Regardless of age or level of technical prowess, we are now able to do wondrous things, such as; find virtually any piece of music or film ever produced, and send it effortlessly to any room of a house. Adjust the entire lighting scene of a home with the push of one button. Watch a decorative mirror that fits perfectly in a home’s aesthetic transform into a television and then change back to a mirror when turned off. Be immersed in sound with literally no visible opening in the wall to draw your eye. These descriptions barely scratch the surface of what human ingenuity has produced to make our client’s homes more sophisticated.

The one thing that has not changed is the need in the marketplace for a reliable home technology integrator. Finding one that invests in training its staff and has a reputation for stability and customer service is crucial. Without this even the best technology will fall flat and cause the same frustrations of a decade ago.

The housing market is trending upward. Remodeling contractors are very busy and clients are investing in their homes like never before. With this growth comes an increasing number of remodeling contractors and competition. Today’s consumers are seeking remodelers who possess a unique vision, access to reliable subcontractors and knowledge of current trends. Avoiding technology today because of a bad experience in the past could put both the contractor and homeowner at a distinct disadvantage. On the other hand, finding a home technology integrator that you can rely on may very well be a blessing in helping to distinguish contractors from their competition.
The homeowners decided that instead of moving they wanted to update the lower level of their home to fit their family needs. The current kitchen was small and a formal dining room did not fit their growing family. Hintz Construction removed the wall between the kitchen and dining room to open up to one large kitchen. By doing this the clients were able to create an island with seating. Hintz Construction incorporated the sink into the island, allowing the client to see directly into the backyard. By moving the sink, the client was able to add a 36” gas cooktop with a wooden hood.

In the family room, the client wanted to keep the existing brick around the fireplace but install a gas fireplace instead of a wood burning fireplace. Hintz Construction removed the existing wood burning fireplace and installed a new gas fireplace. New cabinetry with glass doors and a new black mantel were installed as well. The client wanted to create this as a great TV space so full surround sound was installed as well as speakers in the kitchen so the client could listen to music while cooking.

The entryway and powder bathroom were also updated. The clients needed a space for coats and bags; because the client lacked space for a built-in locker system, Hintz Construction custom-built a wainscot wall to the entryway and provided space to hang coats and bags. The bathroom was updated with a custom-ship lap wall, new toilet, pedestal sink and fixtures.
Hintz Construction Inc. is a remodeling company that specializes in kitchen, bathroom, and basement finishes. Owner, Josh Hintz, has been in the construction industry for 17 years. Josh’s main goal is to create spaces for his clients that are functional and meet their needs. He enjoys working one-on-one with each client to make their dreams come true. Hintz Construction Inc. is a fully licensed remodeling contractor.
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Omaha NARI is committed to building a strong industry image. We are focused on educating consumers to make smart remodeling decisions. Nationally, NARI has over 7,000 member companies that represent over 40,000 remodeling industry professionals who must be insured and registered in the trade to belong to the association. NARI is also known through the national websites www.nari.org and www.remodeltoday.com along with many promotional spots on national and local television.

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When consumers hire an Omaha NARI member, they’re working with an experienced professional who adhere to NARI’s Code of Ethics and Standards of Practice, rated #1 value by NARI members. Omaha NARI members are vetted to comply with the following:

- In business for a minimum of one year. Over 75% have been a NARI member for over 3 years
- Carry all licensing and insurance required by the federal, state and local authorities
- Hold to the highest industry standards, ethics and business operations
- Invest in knowledge, skill development and quality production
- Access latest information through publications, education and conferences
- Enhance the professionalism of remodeling
- Be an ally to clients

Omaha NARI’s website makes it easy to find a remodeler in your area. Get inspired – learn the importance about certifications and the benefits of using an Omaha NARI member all in one place.

Visit OmahaNARI.org/MemberListing

Have questions or want to talk to someone directly?

Call us at 402.331.1718
A generous addition wraps around the house and features a hearth and dining room, spacious kitchen, walk-in pantry, laundry room and master suite. Expansive windows allow views of the established neighborhood gardens and trees.

The warmth of natural hardwood floors, stained woodwork and cabinetry create a welcoming environment and contrast with the textured stone around the fireplace.

The master suite addition creatively connects and expands both the existing master bath and closet areas. The treyed ceiling defines the new bedroom area, creating an intimate comfortable place to relax.
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For more information, visit www.thurtconstruction.com.
The homeowners are empty nesters looking to build their dream space. They have lived in the home for thirty years and have raised three boys in the house. High on the client’s wish list was to ensure that the kitchen design is cohesive with the style of the original house. Top design priorities for the space were: more counter workspace for two cooks, small appliance storage, durable surfaces, and they asked for a seating area for two to three that could be used for snacks or a quick meal when the family wasn’t eating together.

To create the needed space Hubby Home built an addition onto the house, expanding the kitchen to triple its size. The addition also included a basement build-out for a new larger laundry room. Skylights were added for beautiful ambient lighting, the ceiling was wrapped in custom beams and bead board, new windows were installed overlooking a new patio space, and custom milled trim was used to match the original. Jenn-Air appliances that were speckled: 30” gas cooktop, double ovens, 36” countertop depth refrigerator, and an under counter wine refrigerator.

Hubby Home Improvement worked hand in hand with Tangerine Designs for the cabinet design and selection of material for the project. The creative play of elegant walnut wood countertop mixed with a custom finished Mission style oak cabinetry, limestone looking quartz countertop, stainless steel appliances along with travertine ledger backsplash bring a wow factor to this space. A multitude of thoughtfully designed glass cabinets and shelves add fun opportunities for the homeowners to display both stemware and cookbooks. A fun area at one end of the island was designed for the dog bowls and water!

The project was a huge success to say the least. This kitchen will be enjoyed for many years to come.

One of the most beloved home styles of the twentieth century, the craftsman bungalow, tends to be long on charm but often short on space – especially when it comes to the kind of open and inviting kitchen most homeowners are looking for today.
Hubby Home Improvement is a team of amazing talent that brings together vision, creativity, and craftsmanship to build beautiful living spaces. We ensure an exciting experience by building and maintaining a close relationship with our clients. We are a full service Design/Build firm specializing in kitchens, bathrooms, basements and additions. We pride ourselves on customer service, schedule accommodation and superior craftsmanship.

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Congratulations to the builders and suppliers in the NARI Remodeled Home Tour!

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MCC continues to offer training for today’s in-demand jobs with the fall 2017 opening of the Construction Education Center, an academic facility that is part of a $90 million development at the College’s Fort Omaha Campus. The center will offer training and education in fields such as architecture and design, civil engineering, construction technology, electrical technology, industrial trades and more. The CEC is an educational destination that connects its students with good paying jobs in a strong industry.

For more information on the CEC building and its programs, visit mccneb.edu/cec or call 531-MCC-2400.
When it came time to design a back yard that would “WOW” their friends and family, they knew they were in good hands.

The homeowners were previous clients of Terry Hurt, and were very pleased with their previous design and quality remodeling experience. For this project, C & H Construction collaborated with the owners to ensure their vision was implemented into the design and construction process.

The project was divided into two separate phases to allow each phase to be completed using the best materials and ideas, while still staying within the homeowners desired budget. The second phase of this extensive project would not be completed for a couple more years. In 2014, phase one consisting of the upper patio, fire pit, outdoor kitchen, deck, and hot tub area were completed. In addition, the grand set of steps leading to the pool recreational area was also finalized. The original design integrated the second phase of the project into the first phase and prepared for the pool and cabana house construction to be completed at a later date. The septic tank was moved and grading – site prep was completed during phase one. The owners desired ample room for sunbathing and additional space for their family and friends to enjoy cookouts, movie nights and swimming pool activities. C & H Construction joined forces with T. Hurt Construction on the construction of the cabana house to create a structure the family is proud to show off and enjoy with family and friends. Phase two was completed in the summer of 2016.
C & H Construction’s vision is to manage and complete all aspects of concrete construction and restoration with integrity and quality. Our number one priority is to offer a professional relationship with our clients, from the initial design to the completed project, our work is always warranted and completed with the highest level of quality workmanship. C & H Construction has managed a magnitude of projects throughout the metro’s finest neighborhoods and business districts. We specialize in commercial and residential concrete construction, conducted with the newest techniques in stamping, coloring, staining and concrete polishing. C & H Construction also provides design and construction management of outdoor spaces; swimming pools and outdoor kitchens. Contact Jarek or Terry, owners of C & H Construction, to discuss your next project.
A masterpiece of precision is the result of this project.

The homeowners wanted a whole new exterior along with a new covered front porch addition and covered back deck. Several years ago, a front porch addition was put onto the residence; however, the homeowners were never very satisfied with how that came out. The roofline was extremely steep and did not flow with the rest of the home. They were also experiencing some issues with deterioration of the existing structure. With the position of the house to the street, the homeowners wanted to keep a porch extension on that side of the home, but make it larger and have more of a seamless transition between rooflines.

The scope of the exterior replacement included all new siding, soffit and fascia, new roofing, gutters, several exterior door replacements, front porch addition and back covered deck off the master bedroom. All existing siding was completely removed down to the sheathing and a new weatherization system by DuPont Tyvek was installed along with resealing all existing windows. Although not common in this area, a complete rain screen was installed to allow proper moisture migration and ventilation out of the building envelope.

The homeowner’s main objective was quality and an exterior that would last. With that in mind, they decided to go with 100% pre-painted JamesHardie concrete lap siding with the top freeze board, soffit and fascia also being pre-painted JamesHardie concrete trim. The windows are trimmed in 5 1/2” HardieTrim with many having a top JamesHardie crown molding for an attractive finishing touch. Special consideration was given to all of the flashing work required around all transitions. Quality was also the main driver in selecting pre-cast stone for the railing, beveled caps and columns surrounding the porch.

There were a number of challenging aspects of the front porch addition, starting from the very beginning stages. After demolition of the existing structure, the section where the previous addition met the roof was temporarily dried in. Next came the foundation layout, which was extremely difficult due to the octagon shape and pre-planning required for the brick bases for the eleven pre-cast columns. There are steel posts inside each of the columns which needed to be put in place to support the new roof. With the columns being placed around the steel after everything was framed, the height of each part needed to be meticulously planned out from the very beginning so that it would hit exactly on the mark at the end. This required the mason to pay very close attention to every cut. When it came to the framing stage, our carpenters also brought their best skills to the table. There are four different roof pitches that all had to line up perfectly for the soffit and fascia. This was a mathematical feat but when all was said and done, it all came together perfectly.
BRATETIC CONSTRUCTION, INC. is a full service remodeling company specializing in kitchen and bath remodels, additions, whole home renovations, custom cabinetry and basement finishes. Founded in 2000, the company has continued to build a solid reputation of quality and the finest in design and craftsmanship in residential remodeling.

Megan and Paul Bratetic

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Do Your Research

Finding a qualified, professional remodeling contractor need not be a difficult or unpleasant task. By following these basic guidelines, you will not only make the selection process easier, but you will also be more prepared to make an informed decision that best suits your needs.

1. Start your home improvement project by selecting a professional, reliable remodeling contractor who is a member in good standing with Omaha NARI. The NARI logo is the mark of a professional.
2. Employ a contractor with an established business in your local area. As tax-paying members of your local community, they are compelled to perform satisfactory work for local homeowners in order for their business to survive.
3. Always be sure that you do business with a company properly licensed to work in your area. Many states or local jurisdictions, but not all, require contractors to be licensed. Contact your state or local licensing agencies to ensure the contractor meets all requirements. Ask the remodeling contractor for a current copy of their license.
4. Ask to see a copy of the remodeling contractor’s certificate of insurance or the name of his or her insurance agency to verify coverage. Most states require a contractor to carry worker’s compensation insurance.

Proper Planning is Important

Think your project through from start to finish. Your home represents a large investment. Its proper care and maintenance are essential. Your home must suit your present needs as well as your lifestyle. Look over your property carefully. What repairs are needed? What improvements would you like? Think ahead and determine your future needs. Do you need an additional bedroom, a refurnished bath, or a modern kitchen? Professional remodeling contractors can help you in your planning by outlining options and discussing the improvements you can make within your budget.

In order to best achieve your objective, you should define which of the following alternatives represents the best approach for your project.

- **Architect/Designer**
  In cases where your professional remodeler does not provide design services, you may wish to seek the assistance of a professionally trained architect/designer. It is best to work with an architect/designer experienced with remodeling; he or she will be more sensitive to the special challenges that remodeling presents.

- **Contractor**
  Many home improvements such as porch construction, roofing, siding and window replacement may not require professional design services and can best be handled by the experienced contractor whose knowledge of materials and methods has been gained by years on the job. Even though the job may be relatively small, its successful completion is important to you. Small jobs, too, need careful planning and attention to details.

Protect Yourself

A detailed contract is essential for any remodeling project. It should detail what the contractor will and won’t do - such as protection of your household goods surrounding the job site and daily clean-up upon completion of the job. Make sure all materials are specified. This includes size, color, weight, model, brand name, quantity and product. It should also include the approximate start and completion dates, payment schedule and an alternative dispute resolution clause.

Understand the financial terms. Make sure that the terms are spelled out in the contract. The total price, payment schedule, and cancellation policy (if there is one) should be clear. Make sure any warranties offered are written into the contract. A warranty must be identified as either “Full” or “Limited.” If it is a “Full Warranty,” all faulty products must be repaired, replaced or your money returned. If it is a “Limited Warranty,” this indicates all replacements and refunds of damaged products are limited in some regard. The name and address of the party who will honor the warranty (contractor, distributor or manufacturer) must be identified. Make sure the time period is clearly specified for which the warranty is offered.

Codes and restrictions should be followed. Be sure that your contract with a professional remodeler spells out any code or permit restrictions, as well as any fees involved in the work on your home.
compensation, property damage and personal liability insurance. Make sure the contractor's insurance coverage meets all the minimum requirements.

5. Check with the state’s Consumer Affairs Office and the Better Business Bureau to ensure there are no complaints on record for the contractor.

6. Ask for local homeowner references and follow-up on them. Call the references; ask if they were satisfied with all aspects of the contractor's performance. Ask the contractor to show you 1 or 2 of the finished projects.

7. If you solicit bids from several different remodeling contractors, be sure they are bidding on the same scope and quality of work.

When interviewing the contractors for your project, do not blindly accept the lowest estimate. Ask the contractor why his price is higher or lower than another. Are all contractors planning to build the same project? Have all the contractors considered all the details necessary for your project's success? Often times, a higher price may be worth the cost of better materials and service. Remember that your remodeling dollars spent represent a permanent investment in the home in which you will spend countless hours. Choose a company with which you feel at ease and one that is well-matched to the scope and complexity of your particular project.

The Design/Build Contractor
Design/Build is a concept developed to benefit the homeowner by providing both quality design and construction services within the same general contracting company. A few of the advantages of working with a design/build firm are:

a. Knowing project job costs – a design/build contractor knows his job costs, so throughout the design process, the project is being engineered to fit your budget and needs.

b. Communications – Developing clear specifications, and precise, responsible design are crucial aspects of the entire process. The lines of communication that are developed in the design stage prepare the groundwork for a clear, well-run remodeling project.

c. Teamwork – When you contract with a professional design/build firm, you become part of a team whose goal is to design and construct a project that will fit your needs.

Think About Design and Function
Design and function should be foremost in your mind if you’re thinking of adding a room or converting an existing room. When planning a larger, more complicated project give thought to details such as, intended use of the space, electrical outlet and cable hook-up locations, the type of lighting required, and your current and future storage needs. These details will enable your home improvement to better suit your needs and your lifestyle. A professional remodeling contractor can also help you with time and money-saving hints.

Think carefully before you sign a contract. If it is incomplete, don’t sign it. Do you understand everything? Are you getting what you really want? If an item you want isn’t written in the contract, you probably won’t get it. Be sure to put all changes in writing if the scope or complexity of your remodeling project is modified while work is being done. The amendment should be agreed upon and signed by both parties.

Comply with Building Codes and Permits
Building codes are established by most cities, towns, and counties and vary considerably from one jurisdiction to another. A building permit generally is required whenever structural work is involved or when the basic living area of a home is to be changed. Do not obtain your own building permit. In most jurisdictions, the person obtaining the permit is liable if the work does not meet local building codes. The complex details of local building codes and permits are familiar details to a professional remodeling contractor who works in your community or town every day and know the local requirements. Request a contractor’s Affidavit of Final Release be provided to you when you make your final payment. This is your assurance that you will not be liable for any third-party claims for nonpayment of materials or subcontractors.
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McKean’s offers all types of flooring, countertops, cabinets and even plumbing fixtures! Whether you’re remodeling, or building a new home, let our experienced design consultants help find the look that matches your individuality!”

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Omaha’s Habitat ReStore has partnered with Johnson Deconstruct, a locally recognized and insured organization, to offer efficient service and experienced personnel to complete your job on time. Your donated items will then be sold at Omaha’s Habitat ReStore with the proceeds going to build more Habitat homes in our community.

*Quality materials can include: cabinets, appliances, fixtures, doors, windows, furniture, sinks, etc.

Get more information and find out if your project qualifies:

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Your project will help build more Habitat Omaha homes.
Today, everyone is trying to reduce their carbon footprint. One of the easiest ways is to choose natural gas for your energy needs. Natural gas is domestically abundant and environmentally friendly. More than 90 percent of the energy produced as natural gas is delivered directly to your home compared to just 27 percent for electric power. As a result, carbon dioxide (CO2) is greatly reduced; up to 75 percent decrease when using gas appliances. This quality is one reason why natural gas is the cleanest of all fossil fuels. Choose natural gas when replacing old appliances or building a new home. You save money, and retain market value of your home. Your choice will help the environment and future generations.

**Benefits of NATURAL GAS**

**APPLIANCES**

When choosing natural gas, there are many appliances to select from.

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- **WATER HEATING** - Natural gas water heaters heat water twice as fast as electric. That means you don’t have to wait as long for the system to recover before you can use more hot water.

- **COOKING** - The burners on your gas cooktop/stove turn on instantly and heat up faster than an electric range. The visible flame and instant on/off function are also an important safety feature for your family.

- **CLOTHES DRYER** - A natural gas dryer heats up faster than an electric one - and stays hot longer. This saves you both time and money. You can dry up to two loads of laundry with a gas dryer compared to drying one load with an electric dryer.

- **HEARTH PRODUCTS** - Natural gas hearth products offer simplicity, convenience, and efficiency that can’t be beat. Once you try gas, you’ll never go back to wood.

- **OUTDOOR LIVING** - Transform your backyard with a natural gas grill, outdoor fireplace, fire pit, tiki torches and patio heaters. They will transform your backyard into a retreat and you never have to worry about running out of fuel.
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Continued next page
The following Greater Omaha Remodelers Association – NARI Members have earned certifications to be NARI Certified Pros

NARI CERTIFIED REMODELER (CR)
Gregg Studanski, CR, CKBR, G & J Remodeling
Joseph L. Knutson, CR, CKBR, Knutson Construction Services
Chris Oldenhuis, CR, CKBR, Oldenhuis Contracting Inc.
Terry Hurt, CR, T. Hurt Construction and C & H Construction
Larry Voller, CR, Voller Contracting

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Joseph L. Knutson, CR, CKBR, Knutson Construction Services
Chris Oldenhuis, CR, CKBR, Oldenhuis Contracting Inc.

NARI CERTIFIED LEAD CARPENTER (CLC)
Jarek Charvat, C & H Construction

NARI UNIVERSAL DESIGN CERTIFIED PROFESSIONAL (UDCP)
Sara Lorenz, UDCP, T. Hurt Construction

Before you renovate
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Visit www2.epa.gov/lead/ for more details and the most up-to-date list of EPA certified lead renovation firms.

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