



Homes of Distinction, Built with Integrity

Donatelli Castillo Builders, Inc.

534 Horning Street San Jose, CA 95112

PH: (408)287-4886 FX: (408) 289-8714

email: info@dcbuild.com

www.dcbuild.com

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## DCB Wins Two Awards from the National Association of the Remodeling Industry

We're proud to announce that Donatelli Castillo Builders has received a 2008 Regional Contractor of the Year (CotY) Award from the National Association of the Remodeling Industry in the category Residential Addition Over \$250,000. Judging for the CotY awards is based on problem solving, functionality, aesthetics, craftsmanship, innovation, degree of difficulty, and entry presentation.

In addition, Chris Donatelli, our co-founder and vice president, received the Harold Hammerman Spirit of Education Award, which is given to recognize excellence in training and education in the remodeling industry. As a company, we have always been dedicated to producing outstanding results as well as promoting the best possible practices through continued education for our employees and the remodeling industry in general; we are very happy to have our efforts recognized, but the biggest prize is and always will be the smile on the face of our satisfied clients.

## Lighting is a Design Tool

No matter how much time or how many resources you devote to making your home beautiful, if you don't take lighting into consideration, it will never reach its full potential. That is because, with the flip of a switch, lighting sets the mood, directs your attention, and influences the entire atmosphere of the room. If you are considering remodeling your home, here are some tips.

Our staff members hold the following industry certifications:

- Certified Remodeler
- Certified Remodeling Carpenter
- Certified Lead Carpenter
- Certified Kitchen and Bath Remodeler
- Certified Green Building Professional



The types of lighting used in a room should be determined by how that room is to be used. There are four basic types of lighting that can be combined for various effects.

**Natural light** is the most dynamic form of lighting and requires careful planning if you intend to use it to its fullest. Because of the movement of the sun, natural light changes the appearance of colors inside your home as the time of day, season, and weather change.

**Artificial ambient light** illuminates the entire room. It can be soft or bright, depending on the effect you are trying to achieve. It is generally best to use several light sources, rather than just one, to evenly distribute light. You can also use light dimmers to give you more customizable and subtle lighting options.

**Artificial or natural task lighting** provides extra light where it's needed to help you read, cook, work, walk on an outside path at night, and more. Task light can often add drama to a room and define spaces.

**Accent lights** allow you to define spaces, focus attention on photos and artwork, and create dramatic effects using the interplay of light and shadow. With today's wide selection of lighting fixtures, the fixtures themselves can also be used to enhance the personality and beauty of your room.

By using these four lighting techniques appropriately, your home can become more beautiful and more functional. Think about it early on, discuss it with your remodeler before the start of design, and don't sign off on the plans for building until you are comfortable with your plans for lighting.

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## Home Maintenance Tip: Clean your garbage disposal

To safely clean your garbage disposal, grind 2 trays of ice cubes made from a mixture of 1 cup white vinegar and 1 gallon of water. Never use bleach as it will damage the unit. To eliminate odors, grind a few citrus peels for a fresh, clean scent.

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We hope you enjoyed our e-newsletter. Remember, you can use the link below to forward this to friends and family who might be interested, so that they can sign up for it as well. Look for us again next month!

**Chris**

Chris Donatelli CR, CKBR, CGBP

**Tony**

Tony Castillo Jr. CKBR, CGBP