

# Renderings

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**BLOOMINGTON**



## Raise a Glass to Home Bars!

Whether located in the kitchen, the lower level or somewhere in between, home bars create a functional and perfectly designed area for entertainment.



Lower Level Bar BEFORE

If you enjoy entertaining and frequently find yourself hosting everything from birthday parties to impromptu weekend gatherings, you might want to consider adding a wet or dry bar to your home. A custom home bar can be a beautiful design element in addition to its function and can add lasting value to your home—plus it just might make you the most popular neighbor on the block!

### What is the difference between a wet bar and a dry bar?

A **wet bar** is a small bar equipped with running water and a sink that is used for preparing and serving beverages at home.

Typically, wet bars have storage areas for drink mixes, glassware, stirrers and other necessities, and often contain a beverage refrigerator and appliances. They need to be constructed near a plumbing line.

A **dry bar** is a furniture piece that can hold a wide variety of items such as bottles, glasses and accessories. It can double as a china cabinet, a buffet table or act as additional storage and can be built anywhere in the home. A dry bar may contain a refrigerator or other appliances. Beautiful architectural elements are often incorporated within the design of both dry and wet bars.

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# Home Bars Cont.

Both wet and dry bars should be installed where you'll host most of the time. Sometimes that's next to the kitchen. Other times, it's a rec room, great room, lower level, library, office or even in your outdoor space. A wet bar just outside the kitchen in the dining and living area gives guests a gathering place out of the cook's way.

Home bars tend to be where your guests congregate, so it's important to make this hub both practical and aesthetically pleasing. Whichever location works best for you, ensure that you tie it in with the overall style of the space. Home bars can feature an amazing range of finishes and designs, targeted towards the unique taste of the homeowner. They can blend in seamlessly, or they can stand out as artistic statement pieces.

When your bar is complete, don't forget to decorate! It can be as basic as displaying high-end liquor bottles on open shelving, or you can try incorporating vintage bottles or small pieces of art to add a bit of visual interest. A unique backsplash is an easy way to add style without overpowering a small space.

With so many decisions to make, your remodeler can help you determine which bar style, design and configuration will best fit your needs. Soon you will be entertaining in style!

Source: [www.Houzz.com](http://www.Houzz.com)

Photos: Brandon Rowell except where noted



Your wet bar should blend well with the kitchen's overall design. Symmetry and style are achieved here with quiet elegance, so that the wet bar doesn't scream "man cave."



Consider where your dry bar will accommodate your wine offerings. Built-in racks or countertop models could be an option. Here, the custom-made "X" wine racks are removable.



Your wet bar sink can match your kitchen sink, or it can offer a uniquely different look such as hammered copper.



Adding a custom bar gives you a chance to be creative! This dry bar features retractable doors, built-in wine racks, a lighted onyx bar top and an antiqued mirror backsplash.



Add quality appliances to the lower level wet bar area, such as a beverage refrigerator, dishwasher, microwave and wine cooler. Having everything at your fingertips means you'll never have to leave all the fun!



Today's wet and dry bars incorporate space for storing glassware, room-temperature dishes, dishwasher, microwave and wine cooler. Having everything at your fingertips means you'll never have to leave all the fun! Plenty of storage is essential for additional items such as stirrers, drink mixes, snacks and other accessories.

# Cold Weather

# DAMAGE

## Causes and Prevention

### Frozen Pipes

In normal winters, even in Minnesota, most homeowners will not experience this problem. When there are extended periods of subzero weather, and especially during strong wind chills, the chances of pipes freezing increases dramatically. It is most likely to occur in or near an outside wall or floor. Even in insulated spaces of heated buildings, after prolonged exposure to extreme outdoor temperatures under 50 degrees below 0 wind chill, water pipes may reach the freezing point of 32 degrees.

The problem may have never happened before, and may never happen again, but can happen anywhere, depending on the temperature, wind chill, direction of wind, no sun exposure, and many other elements, such as low temperatures in the house, non-water usage, etc., that when combined with extreme cold can cause pipe freezing.

#### What can I do?

- Locate the shut off for outside water faucets, and shut it off in the fall.
- Never let your home's temperature fall below 65 degrees.
- Wrap pipes running along the exterior walls in heat tape.
- Let water trickle overnight (as slight as possible) when the conditions are right for freezing. Occasionally, run hot water for 10 minutes or so, thereby heating pipes and surrounding area.

### Roof Leakage

Any roof, even new roofs, can and will leak under the right conditions. Ice damming is the major cause of roof leakage in the winter, which is caused by melting snow. Early heavy snow followed by subzero temperatures are a particularly lethal combination.

The heat escaping from under your roof and the sun shining causes the snow to melt. The melting snow flows under the snow to the edge of the roof where it freezes. Water collects behind the dam and seeps under the shingles, makes its way through cracks, and drips on joists, ceilings, walls and insulation. The weight of the ice can also cause damage to the roof and interior structure.

#### What can I do?

- Clean the gutters. To keep them clear of possible obstructions, trim or remove trees and hedges near the gutters.
- Go into the attic and make sure the ceiling is air-tight so no warm, moist air can flow from the house into the attic.
- Install sufficient attic and soffit ventilation to achieve a "cold roof."
- After sealing air leakage paths between the home and attic space, consider increasing the ceiling/roof insulation.
- Remove snow promptly. If ice damming occurs, remove it, or have it removed.

### Condensation

While it may seem natural to blame the windows, you shouldn't. Window condensation is really an indication of excess humidity in your home. Other problems such as peeling paint, rotting wood, buckling floors, insulation deterioration, mildew and moisture spots on ceilings and walls can also be caused by excess humidity.

There are many things that generate moisture. The daily activities of a family of four showering, soaking, laundry, dish washing, mopping floors, breathing and perspiring, can add more than 18 gallons of water per week to the air.

Air can only hold a limited amount of water vapor depending on the air temperature. The extra vapor condenses on colder surfaces such as walls, windows, a cold glass of liquid, etc., and can even force its way through walls and damage exterior surfaces as wet air tries to flow toward drier air in an attempt to equalize itself. Certain surfaces block that attempt and cause the condensation.

Condensation is more likely to occur inside your home in winter, but can happen anytime when the weather is cold. It also happens to your outside glass when it is hot and humid and your air conditioning cools the interior.

#### What can I do?

- Control the sources of humidity. Vent all gas burners, clothes dryers, etc., to the outdoors. Use kitchen and bathroom exhaust fans more often. Limit use of humidifiers and vaporizers.
- Try to time all the sources of humidity, so that they are not occurring simultaneously.
- Install storms or double glazing.
- Ventilate your home by opening windows and doors when weather permits to allow the humid air to escape, and fresh dry air to enter.
- Add louvers and vents to roof and attic areas, exterior surfaces and crawl spaces.
- Open fireplace damper.



Remodeling

# Plekkenpol

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The newest member of our crew!

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### THE CONSTRUCTION PHASE



## Meet "Big Red"

*The newest member of our crew!*

Depending on the type of remodeling you have chosen to do, the first few phases of construction (demolition, footings, rough framing, etc.) are often the most visible, dramatic and exciting steps. Throughout your project, we will schedule "Big Red" (our newest, shiniest dump truck) to pick up debris. No unsightly dumpster on most projects!

Once your project is complete, your crew will clean up, and you can get busy decorating, organizing and adding the final touches to your new addition or remodeled space!

## Plekkenpol Builders will present to your group!

Do you have questions about home remodeling, such as how to choose a remodeler, how to budget and plan for a remodel, and how to understand contract documents? Do you belong to a community or business group that would also benefit from advice on this topic?

We would be happy to have one of our highly experienced Project Managers come and speak to your group. We can show you how remodeling can be simple and stress-free when you work with the right professionals.

Presentations usually last 30 minutes followed by a question and answer session. There is no charge for this service. For more information on having a representative speak to your group, contact us at **952-888-2225** or [info@plekkenpol.com](mailto:info@plekkenpol.com).

Groups that may benefit from a presentation:

- Business and civic organizations
- Neighborhood groups
- Senior citizens' groups
- Adult education classes
- Community home improvement fairs
- Corporate home improvement clubs
- And other local organizations

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