

## 30 Top Remodelers

Most of the builders and design/build firms listed here perform a range of work, including renovation, additions, and new-home construction. An asterisk (\*) indicates that the builder won awards for residential work from NARI or the AIA in the past three years.

**Great Falls Construction**, Great Falls; 703-759-6116; <http://www.greatfallsconstruction.com/>. GFC has been building big custom homes in Virginia since 1979. In the past five years, they've expanded to renovation work.

### Others in Top 30:

**Acadia Contractors**, Bethesda; 301-320-6702. Architects report that Acadia does beautiful work and is particularly attentive to details.

\***Anthony Wilder Design/Build**, Bethesda; 301-907-0100; <http://www.anthonywilder.com/>. With 25 years experience, Wilder does traditional, high-end work he calls "architecture with whimsy."

**Associated Custom Builders**, McLean; 703-356-8700; <http://www.associatedcustombuilders.com/>. Mitch Racoosin's 45-year-old company is known for high-end homes with Old World touches, from antique cabinetry to marble columns.

**Bethesda Contracting**, Chevy Chase; 301-656-9020. Mike Thiede is known for outstanding workmanship and a hands-on approach.

\***Bowa Builders**, McLean; 703-734-9050; <http://www.bowa.com/>. Bowa specializes in large, upper-end residential projects and is noted for good customer service.

\***Brenneman & Pagenstecher**, Kensington; 301-933-9305; <http://www.brenpag.com/>. Architect Dean Brenneman and builders John and Peter Pagenstecher merged forces in 1997 to concentrate on highly detailed residential renovations.

**deMarne and Day**, Potomac; 301-299-6500. One of the top choices of architects, deMarne and Day is known as a highly professional operation that produces impressive workmanship.

**Gibson Builders**, Northwest DC; 202-364-1555. One of our top vote-getters, Jim Gibson has earned a solid reputation among competitors as a fair man who hires top-notch tradespeople. Gibson does mostly custom homes, and only takes on renovations that cost over \$500,000.

\***Hopkins & Porter Construction**, Potomac; 301-840-9121; <http://www.hopkinsandporter.com/>. Hopkins & Porter has done design/build work for more than 25 years. The firm also features handyman services for smaller jobs.

**Horizon Builders**, Crofton; 410-721-4877. With more than 100 employees, Horizon has the staff and the project management skills to get the job done right and on time. A top vote-getter, it's been called the best in Washington.

**Jeffco**, Rockville; 301-564-5129. Jeffrey Robins's firm does meticulous work on custom homes and remodeling projects.

**John Richardson**, Georgetown; 202-342-7424. One architect called Richardson the best in Georgetown.

\***Kohler Homes**, Burke; 703-764-1200; <http://www.kohlerhomes.com/>. Mark Kohler, whose father started Kohler Associates Architects 40 years ago, is both an architect and a contractor at this design/build firm.

\***Landis Construction Corporation**, DC; 202-362-4236; <http://www.landisconstruction.com/>. Ethan Landis, a general contractor, and brother Chris, an architect of 18 years, run this design/build firm.

**LifeCraft**, Northwest DC; 202-362-3830. LifeCraft earns some of the highest praise from those in the industry. It builds large, historic additions and renovations, as well as custom homes.

**Lofgren Construction**, Gaithersburg; 301-948-3277. Mike Lofgren works with architects on high-end renovations.

**Mauck, Zantzing & Associates**, Northwest DC; 202-363-8501. This firm does a thorough and professional job by listening to clients. They only do projects that cost \$200,000 or more.

**McNamara Brothers**, Silver Spring; 301-589-3767. McNamara has extensive experience working closely with architects on renovations and additions.

**Meridian Homes**, Bethesda; 301-652-4440; <http://www.meridianhomesinc.com/>. Michael and Jonathan Lerner's firm is small enough to offer one-on-one service to custom-home clients.

**Merrill Contracting & Remodeling**, Arlington; 703-525-3214; <http://www.merrillcontracting.com/>. David Merrill's firm designs 75 percent of the residential remodeling projects it builds, most of them in Arlington. It's lauded for its fair pricing and ethics.

**O'Neill Development**, Potomac; 301-840-9310; <http://www.oneilldev.com/>. Brendan O'Neill's firm has kept busy since 1975 with renovations and new homes.

**Peterson and Collins**, Northwest DC; 202-234-4500. George Collins and Ted Peterson build high-end homes, additions, and large renovations, and maintain their own custom millwork shop. Architects and clients love this firm, a top vote-getter.

**Pollard Construction**, Alexandria; 703-549-1545. Remodeling and new-home construction in DC, Northern Virginia, and Montgomery County.

**Potomac Valley Builders**, Poolesville; 301-605-2803; <http://www.potomacvalleybuilders.com/>. Additions, renovations, and new homes. Communication is easy, since you deal with the owners; one works as a foreman.

**Sandy Spring Builders**, Bethesda; 301-913-5995; <http://www.sandyspringbuilders.com/>. Remarkable craftsmanship in custom homes and large renovations.

**SBR Construction**, Silver Spring; 301-388-2320. Mike Baker produces a small number of well-managed projects, one at a time.

**Smith, Thomas and Smith**, Bethesda; 301-656-0141. This firm consistently does work that pleases its clients.

**W.B. Dorman Construction**, Takoma Park; 301-587-7947. Brad Dorman focuses on small projects and is considered a straight-shooter in the industry.

\***Wentworth Levine Architect-Builder**, Silver Spring; 301-585-4848; <http://www.wentworthlevine.com/>. Architect Bruce Wentworth and contractor Jerry Levine are well respected; this design/build firm has won many NARI awards.