4 TIPS TO THE PERFECT KITCHEN

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Care for wood Add a sunroom Light your home

DREAM DINING ROOMS

CHOOSE YOUR PERFECT FLOOR PLAN

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OR HIRE

A PRO?

FLOOR PLANS

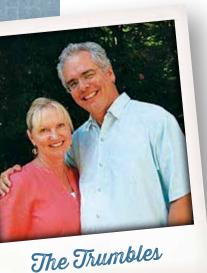
roomy retreat

Replacing an Old Cabin

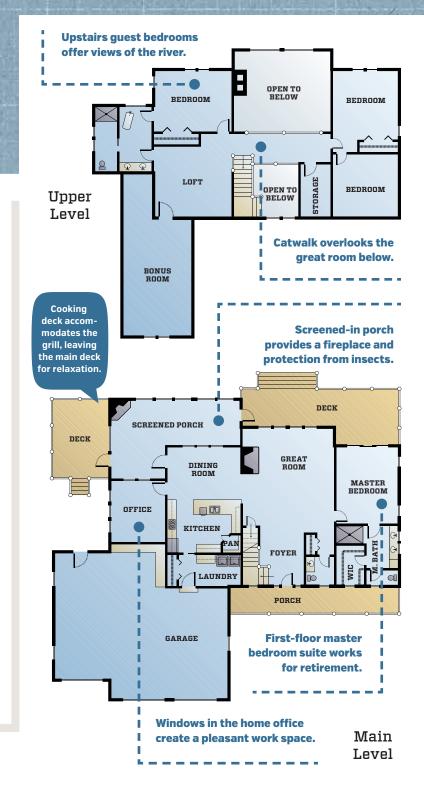
oving to the Wisconsin Dells represents a homecoming for Rita and Casey Trumble. They both grew up in Wisconsin and are looking forward to retiring to the area. They purchased a lot with 160 feet of riverfront and an existing fishing camp where they could build a retreat to enjoy all year around.

Why a log home: Casey says he and his wife enjoy the "warmth, charm and appeal" of logs, but they wanted to have some variety for their home's interior look.

Most important features: The Trumbles planned to tear down the old cabin on the



lot and replace it with a home that takes advantage of their river views and allows them to entertain family and friends. The couple enjoys hiking, birding and paddle sports, so connecting their new home to the outdoors was key.



PLAN SPECS

Square Footage: 3,027 Bedrooms: 3 Baths: 2.5

The Lowdown

The Trumbles chose Wisconsin Log Homes, in Green Bay, to provide their home package, which features conventional wall construction sided with half-logs on the exterior. Inside, a mix of half-logs, drywall and knotty pine line the walls. The company's Nate Janczak designed a layout that would capture views from the great room, screened-in porch, master bedroom and guest rooms.

The Inside Scoop

The small, seasonal cabin already on their lot was not what the Trumbles had in mind for a full-time home. Removing it and starting from scratch was the best solution. For people planning to replace an existing building, Janczak offers these tips:

KNOW YOUR ZONING. Before you remove a building (or even before you purchase the lot) meet with zoning officials, faceto-face if possible, to establish a good relationship and explain your plans. Some jurisdictions will require more paperwork than others.

DON'T ASSUME. Setbacks and restrictions change over time. Just because the existing house or a neighbor's are built right at the water's edge, for example, doesn't mean current regulations will allow a new home to be that close.

WATCH THE BUDGET. Consider the costs of tear-down labor and fees to dispose of materials — some of which could be hazardous.

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