



ED GOHLICH

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Make it green

If you're remodeling it makes sense to rebuild in an environmentally sensitive manner. Laura Birns designed this mineral-based glass counter (left) with recycled materials. Low-energy lighting was used in the counter-light wall. Eucalyptus-veneer counter has a border of sapele hardwood harvested from a managed forest. The living room ceiling of a Mission Hills home remodeled by Safdie Rabines Architects is finished with panels of corrugated aluminum (above right). American Clay Earth Plaster, a natural finish for interior walls and ceilings (below), has an elegant look as well as environmentally conscious features: non-toxic, hypoallergenic, low-inherent energy and low waste. The finishes are available in 12 colors and can be custom-color mixed.

GREEN

Use recycled building materials.

Install a photovoltaic system to reduce energy bills.

Design rooms with multiple functions. Multipurpose spaces are more adaptable to changing needs.

Use structural insulated panels (SIPs) for floors, walls and roofs. SIPs are energy efficient and less toxic to the environment.

Contact a local professional who is familiar with financing green, energy-efficient renovations (for further information go to www.dreamsourcefinancial.com).

Use 2-foot overhangs to protect siding.

Replace bulbs with those that are compact fluorescent.

Use wood that is Forest Stewardship Council (FSC)-certified. FSC certification ensures the wood is managed and harvested sustainably, without damaging forest ecosystems.

Finish your wood with water-borne acrylic MEGA wood finish by Bona Kemi — a less-toxic option than most wood finishes.

Install Low-E windows that reflect heat out in the summer and into the space in the winter.

— Green Remodeling by David Johnston and Kim Master. LEED AP



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