



# Heart of Home

NARI MINNESOTA – 2025 ROTY AWARDS

# Project Overview

**Project:** Heart of Home

**Category:** Residential Interior \$100,000 to \$250,000

Built in 1992, this lakeside home needed a full home renovation that matched both its scenic setting and the needs of modern living. The original layout felt dated and inefficient—especially with a cooktop on the island, small windows, dated materials, and random closets scattered throughout the home, which the homeowner disliked.

This stunning remodel elevates flow and style with custom features: a sleek pantry cabinet replaces a bulky closet, spacious new windows welcome sunshine, and a chic walk-through bar connects living spaces. Premium finishes—white oak floors, marble, soapstone, and alder accents—create a warm, timeless, and sophisticated design.

## Client Needs & Wants:

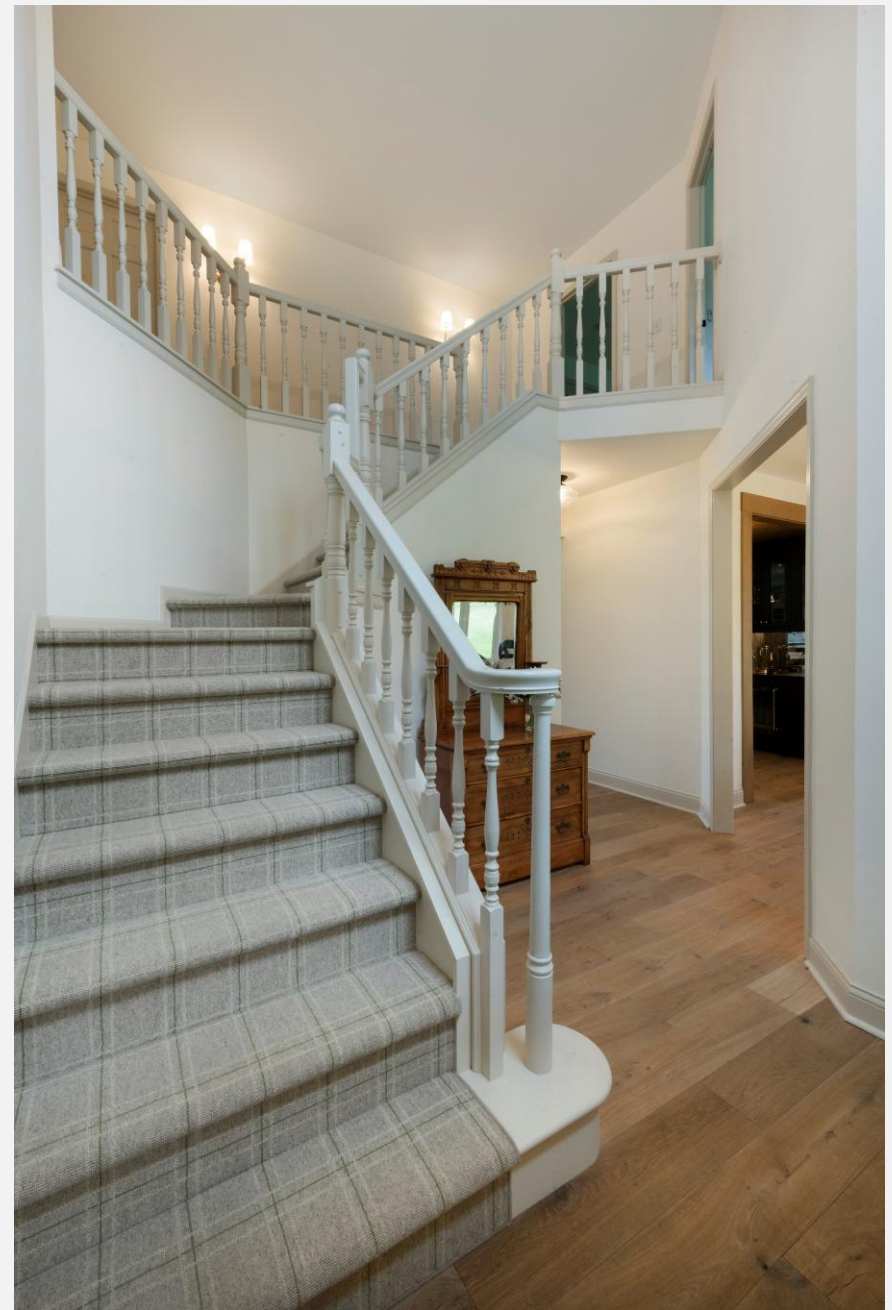
- Take advantage of the views across the pond
- Update the functionality and finishes of the kitchen – Luxury design!
- Brighten up the space
- Update the flooring
- Improve lighting
- Eliminate the popcorn ceilings

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# Before & After



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# Before & After

This awkward large closet was transformed into a stunning walkthrough bar area that now seamlessly blends the living room with the formal dining room



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# Functionality

- Improved natural light by adding larger windows across the back of the house in the kitchen and living room
- Improved the flow of the home by opening the wall between the dining room and family room for the wet bar butler pantry area
- Installed new white oak floors throughout to unify the main floor
- The once awkward pantry in the kitchen was transformed into a stunning pantry cabinet
- The railing dividing the kitchen and living room was removed to create better flow
- A larger, more squared kitchen island was added for more usable counter space



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# Aesthetics

- Soft white paint with contrasting light taupe trim was used to brighten the space and provide a clean pallet for rugs and furniture
- Layered lighting was used to complement the unique features of the space (In the arched niche's, wet bar, above the kitchen sink and sconces at the range hood)
- Wallpaper was used to bring character to the small powder room
- A pantry closet with bifold doors was removed from the kitchen and replaced by a large custom pantry cabinet
- Inset built-ins with arches were added to both sides of the fireplace to reflect the new arched doorways



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# Craftsmanship/Innovation

- Clear Alder tongue and groove used to create the cozy wet bar space
- Plaster finish on the hood vent
- Installed the first row of the zellige backsplash tile vertically for a more custom look
- The soapstone backsplash at the sink is 14" high to the window



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# Project Challenges

It seemed as though every wall that was opened for window installation, the wet bar, and other features was packed with plumbing or HVAC lines. This required extensive planning and creative problem-solving. Thanks to skilled tradespeople, we successfully re-routed systems, utilized toe-kick vents, and maintained the design vision without compromising functionality or aesthetics.



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