

Santa Fe REAL ESTATE Guide

Artisan/craftsman/**builder**

FEBRUARY 2008 VOLUME 10, ISSUE 11

The beauty of custom home design

by Kurt Faust

Like so many things in life, the deeper the connections, the richer the experience. So it is with a home designed for you and for your homesite. Those books of stock home plans just cannot provide a home with the same personal comfort. They merely deal with the numbers and types of rooms and their sizes. Custom design examines the relationships between the rooms of the home and it addresses how they work together and how they work for the individual family members.

Each homesite has its own unique character. The view, the privacy issues, and the entry sequence - how one gets from the street to the front door - must all be carefully regarded. The floor plan, the aesthetics of the styling, the curb appeal, how the home fits into the landscape, and any special features of the home all work together to connect the home to your own style of living.

Custom design gives you control over options such as finishes. The view is one of the primary considerations and must be nailed dead on. I don't know how many times I've been in a home where the view was off to one side or, worse yet, the best view was from the garage. When protecting the privacy of the home it is wise to understand exactly where all of the surrounding homesites are located and design accordingly. There are two entry sequences; one that the guests see and one the owners use everyday. The former must have "curb appeal" and must have a sense of logic as to where the front door is located.

The kitchen is often the center of activity. Whether you are a gourmet cook or not, the kitchen layout for food prep and storage will dramatically effect your enjoyment of your home. Your entertaining may be formal or informal. There can be large family gatherings, a small quiet intimate group of friends, or elaborate holiday celebrations. Don't forget television and music and how they will be enjoyed.

A custom home will address exactly how you use the private space in the home, such as for bathing, sleeping, study, work, fitness, or hobbies. This space can be as sequestered or connected to the public spaces as needed. It can be as simple as a cabinet near the dining table to store special supplies or as elaborate as a garage decked out with hooks for special equipment and multiple surfaces to work on.



Kurt Faust is an artist, blacksmith, cabinetmaker, and homebuilder. He owns Tierra Concepts, Inc. and Taos Furniture with his two partners Eric Faust & Keith Gorges.

The advantages of custom design provide the most enjoyable living experience possible from your new home. With custom design you will experience a sense of accomplishment and pride of personal ownership that makes it well worth the effort.

Contact Kurt Faust:

Cell: 505.780.1157

www.tierraconceptssantafe.com