

The Benzie County

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Duperron Designs handle all aspects of remodeling

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DUPERRON



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HONOR - Duperron Designs Inc. was established in 2006. The Honor-based business is owned and operated by Christina and Sean Duperron.

This design/construction company prides itself on working closely with home owners or first-time home builders. Duperron Designs can design and build a room, an addition or an entire house.

Christina Duperron was raised in Mesick, attended Northwestern Michigan College and graduated with a Bachelor of Fine Arts degree from Kendall College of Art and Design. After graduation, Christina worked for a variety of companies including: Custer Office Environments, Expressions Custom Furniture, AAI Architects of Traverse City and a six-year stint with Betsie Bay Furniture of Frankfort.

Husband, Sean, grew up in Traverse City and graduated from Central Michigan University with a degree in Parks and Recreation Management. Sean's father, a builder in Traverse City, had provided Sean with his first experiences in the construction business.

When Duperron Designs Inc. was formed, Sean had just finished a six-year period as a manager in the Rails to Trails program. Christina had recently finished working with Betsie Bay Furniture. They decided it was time to go

into business for themselves. Christina had gained 12 very valuable years of experience and Sean had kept his hand in the construction trades with his work on the Rails to Trails project.

Christina and Sean both have builder's licenses. Both can speak knowledgeably about every aspect of the design and construction process.

"I can talk about all options from framing to furniture placement. We try to anticipate and work out potential problems before we start," says Christina. "It cuts down on time and money. We don't want the client to say 'I wish I would have...' I really enjoy my work and I apply as much thought and attention to a bathroom remodel as I do to an addition."

The design and building process will create stress in most clients. There are tools, however, that can help diminish the stress level. Computer Aided Drafting (CAD) programs can create a simulated floor plan that allows people to 'walk through' the rooms before they are built.

Digital camera provide builders with a way to send daily-updates (visual progress) to their out-of town clients. "Building or remodeling can be very overwhelming. Many people have a difficult time visualizing the end result. These tools can go a long way toward easing their worries," Christina adds.

Many states, Michigan included have changed or modified building codes to increase energy efficiency. That has led to an increase in building material costs. The cost-increase is just one more thing that keeps clients awake at night. But Duperron Designs will work with you, and within your budget. Sean and Christina don't need a high-end budget to produce high-end results. Workmanship and planning go a long way toward keeping costs down. And the Duperrons use local subcontractors. They buy materials and supplies locally when possible.

Duperron Designs understands the terms 'renewable and sustainable' and will incorporate those materials into the plan. From the design stand point, Christina is well aware of the green choices that are available. Some examples include bamboo and cork flooring, cellulose insulation, fabrics, rugs, furniture and Paper Stone (a line of countertops made from recycled paper and densely compressed).

Duperron Designs Inc. offers a long list of services to provide that 'wow' factor home owners look for. They listen and understand client needs, wants and desires. Duperron offers plan review, space planning, lighting and electrical solutions, surface material selection (flooring, paint, cabinetry, countertops, plumbing fixtures, hardware, millwork, exterior finishes), furnishings (lamps rugs, bedding, furniture, artwork, wall coverings and window treatments), home staging and project management.

Since 1996, Christina has been a member of the American Society of Interior Designers. Duperron Designs Inc. is also a member of the Benzie County Chamber of Commerce and contractorsyoucantrust.com.

These days, the quiet of the home office may be interrupted by the sounds of a recent arrival to the Duperron household. Daughter, Nicolette, is 14 months old and likely the source of at least some of the noise. If the Duperrons have any free time, they like to cross country and downhill ski in the winter and water ski, camp, boat and hike in the summer.

Duperron Designs Inc. has a wonderful portfolio in their online showroom at www.duperrondesigns.com. There are many before and after photos. Duperron Designs can be reached at (231) 325-3043.