

# Before & After

The following photos depict before and after renovations made by Blais Interiors on a Long Lake home purchased by the client as a seasonal rental property. The client, Mark Hall, contacted Blais Interiors for renovation and design concepts, with the caveat that as a rental property the house would be subject to high traffic and concentrated use. The result was a completely turnkey rental—right down to bed

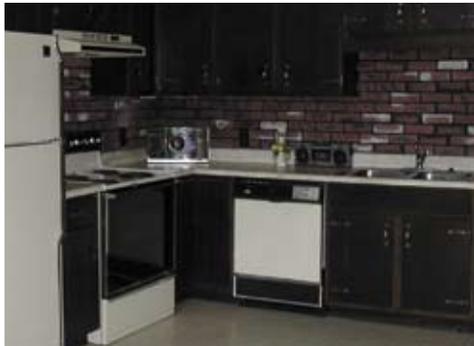
linens, kitchen utensils, blow dryers, and even Q-Tips.

Hall, who owns a contracting business in Reading, Massachusetts, opted to complete the exterior renovations himself, allowing Blais Interiors owner Lorraine Blais to work in concert with him on the interior design. The outcome was remarkable—a beautifully remodeled home that is pleasing for all who rent it.

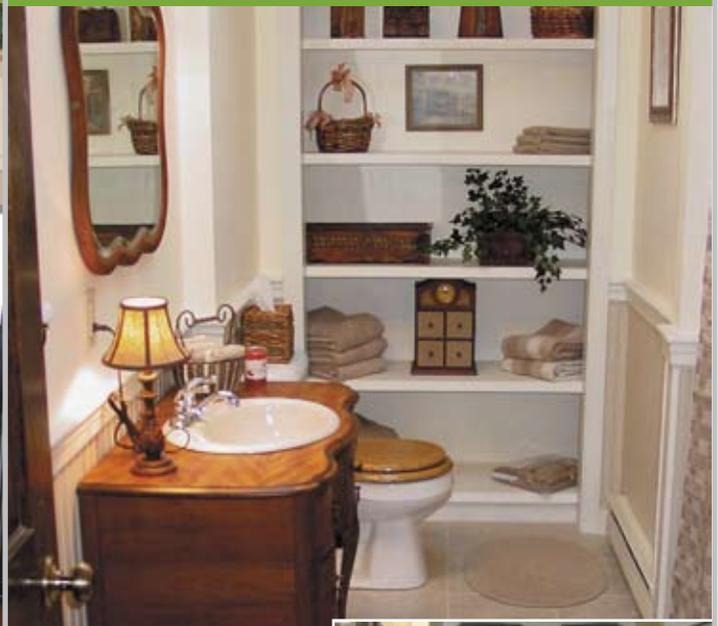
## KITCHEN



Dated from the 1960s—a dark age in home decor by any account—the kitchen was made darker still by brown paneled cabinets, a fake brick backsplash, linoleum flooring and outdated appliances. The goal was to lighten things up, and a 10' bay window placed centrally over the sink was the means. Shaker style birch cabinets and stainless steel appliances further served to brighten and update the decor. Overhead ambient lighting was added and granite countertops replaced formica. Eliminating the linoleum from the kitchen floor and replacing it with a honeyed oak flooring that extends throughout the living room pulls it all together and creates an aesthetically pleasing blend of wood tones.



## BATHROOM



Done on a low budget in the 1960s, the bathroom had a makeshift linen closet built with stock shelving, linoleum flooring, and lacked windows to allow natural light or ventilation. The renovation included a large skylight that brings in lots of natural lighting, 12"x12" ceramic tiles on the floor, chair railing with bead board, new shelving, and a Queen Anne antique dresser with porcelain drop sink and original mirror above. Complementary colors of soft honey linen with cream beige create a fresh new look with clean lines.



## BASEMENT



Removing the spiral staircase and using the new staircase as a room divider to separate the game room from the TV area made sense for this rental property and gave the kids their own rec room. An extra large guest room with second bath (not visible in this photo) makes further good use of previously unused space.



## KEZAR LAKE ESTATE



The living room of this Kezar Lake Estate illustrates Blais Interiors ability to bring character and warmth into a newly constructed home by adding color and some unique custom-designed Maine furniture. The owners purchased the home as a guest house for family and friends, and wanted the interior to complement the natural beauty of the home's Maine lakeside setting. The before shot shows the room with basic white walls that actually detract from the charm of natural pine beams and oak floors. Lorraine chose soft earth tones to transform this room into an aesthetically pleasing and warm environment. Not wanting to compete with breathtaking views of Kezar Lake, she opted for a comfortable yet uncluttered decor.



*With twenty years of interior design experience prior to becoming an innkeeper for twelve years, Lorraine Blais has only recently heeded the entreaties of her sorely neglected creative side and returned to what she does best—architectural design and contracting. Blais Interiors ad appears on page 4.*