

12 AWARD-WINNING KITCHENS & BATHS p. 48

# MIDWEST Home<sup>®</sup>

## KITCHEN *Makeovers*

**SHOPPING  
GIFTS THAT  
GIVE**

*p. 17*

**ALL LOCAL  
HOLIDAY  
FLORAL**

*p. 36*

**LIFE IN COLOR  
BOLD &  
BEAUTIFUL**

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# Kurt Baum & Associates

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The key to success for local architect Kurt Baum of Kurt Baum and Associates is attention to detail. When initial meetings take place with a new client, it is important to really try to understand exactly what the client is looking for, not only in design but in function. Siting a project is critical to capture the best views, as well as considering accessibility, curb appeal, and maximizing natural sunlight. "I make sure every project is safe, functional, and aesthetically pleasing. I think about every nook and cranny," he explains, "Nothing is done by accident."

This attention to detail—along with specialized training to see big picture possibilities and find innovative solutions (while never losing sight of the clients' vision)—helps bring projects to the next level. In 2016, Kurt won a "Best of Houzz" for designing a stunning patio, just one of many accolades the firm has received over the past 17 years.

This home, on a past AIA Homes by Architects Tour, was a collaboration with builder Streeeter & Associates.



He comments, "You can work with incredible craftsmen and the finest materials, but there's nothing that compares to the value of good design."

Kurt Baum,  
Principal Architect and Founder  
Kurt Baum & Associates