

Custom man caves

BY LEVEL 1 HOMES, INC.

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“... where a guy can just be a guy.”

The man cave. That place in the house where a man can decorate and do as he pleases. These spaces are typically in specially equipped garages, spare bedrooms, media rooms or basements. It's an area of the home where a man can go to work on a hobby, watch sports, play video games and hang out with male friends without distraction. Man caves are also known as a male retreat or sanctuary space, which is a testament to their value in a man's life.

“Ladies get the rest of the house and get to decorate as they please,” says Clint

Dufresne, owner of Level 1 Homes. “It's like when couples go to buy a car, the guy picks the engine and the woman picks everything else.” He explains that the whole idea is this is where a guy can just be a guy, and control the decor and focus of the space. A man cave is distinct with its more masculine features, attractions and designs.

Dufresne is getting more and more requests for the inclusion of masculine rooms. Since Level 1 Homes is a full custom builder, these spaces can be included in the design, rather than tacked on as an afterthought in a spare bedroom or garage. As the name suggests, the

company specializes in full custom one-level homes. Most builders only offer ranch style homes with a basement, so what Level 1 Homes provides is a rare commodity. “I interviewed ranch style home buyers, and found that most people rarely went into their basement,” says Dufresne. “In a one-level home there is no wasted space, it's all living space.” He explains that people ultimately prefer slightly smaller homes with more features, higher end appliances and more electronics, rather than an added basement that will seldom be visited. The company is the only builder in the Pikes Peak region to specialize in one-level living.

Dufresne's man cave is a prime display of design possibilities. The room boasts a state-of-the-art sound and video system, two comfortable leather recliners and a pool table. Visible just outside the sliding glass doors is a stone fire pit, which extends the man cave out along the full covered patio. Also included in the design is a wet bar with quartz countertops, knotty alder cabinets, a full refrigerator, beverage storage and a bar sink. Men have the freedom to express themselves through the interior design. In Dufresne's, he has presented Denver Broncos memorabilia, a Fat Tire fluorescent sign, pilot-inspired art — since he is also a pilot — and hardwood furnishings throughout. Often times these decorations

get brushed into a closet somewhere, but in a man cave they can be proudly displayed.

Level 1 Homes also prides itself on its wider hallways and doorways, covered patios and porches, fully finished garages and no steps on the inside or outside of the home. The full custom builder also equips homes with in-floor radiant heating, a high-efficiency boiler and air conditioner, and circulating instant hot water, so that homeowners never have to wait for the water to heat up when washing dishes or taking a shower. These additional features makes for an entertaining, relaxing, economical and dynamic man cave.

ABOUT LEVEL 1 HOMES

Level 1 Homes Inc. is a company with a team of the best people in the building business. The builder and founder, Clint Dufresne, has more than 25 years of hands-on experience in the new home building and remodeling business. He has owned new home building businesses in both Minnesota and Colorado. He has also worked as a successful real estate broker earning RE/MAX's Hall of Fame award. This combination of experience gives him a unique perspective when working with clients to benefit both their lifestyle and budget. To learn more, call 719-339-0720 or visit Level1Homes.com.