

# BEFORE & AFTER

*A complete remodel of this Riverhouse condo added another bedroom to the floor plan, in addition to completely updating the style*

by KIM FULLER



ONE OF VAIL'S original Riverhouse condos was 1,555 square feet of outdated style, but a recent remodel made it a mountain getaway with modern appeal.

The clients had purchased the condo with the intentions of gutting and remodeling the entire unit to maximize the space while updating the finishes. They wanted clean lines, open spaces and highly functional areas.

"A full bedroom was added to the original two-bedroom condo without sacrificing functionality," explains Forrest Watson, senior project manager for Beck Building Company. "A modern design and feel with rustic accents can be seen throughout the unit."

To understand the preexisting structural conditions of the unit, Watson and his team x-rayed the original concrete floor. They could then change the framing and add





*The redesigned space includes an entirely new bedroom, as well as an open living room with comfortable seating.*





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steel to reconfigure the space and allow for the three bedrooms.

“The third bedroom we created was a hidden wall that incorporates a full wall of cabinets and a hidden style door that takes you into the bathroom,” says Watson. “The fact that we were able to create three full bedrooms with three full bathrooms is what makes the unit more valuable and unique.”

#### **Special touches**

To add unique lighting details in the space, the team paired

can lights in groups of two on the ceiling, instead of the typical one-light style. They incorporated shad pockets in the drywall ceilings so that drapery and shade rolls are hidden, unless they are positioned to be in use. They put no trim on the windows — just sharp drywall corners to remove the distraction from a typical wood trim detail.

Reclaimed wood was incorporated throughout with barn doors, wood accent around the fireplace, a timber beam in the hall, and reclaimed

oak floors with a gray stain.

“The floors read as if they are old floors, but with the gray stain, it dilutes the heavy rustic feel, and complements the paint colors throughout,” says Watson.

The paint is “flat” with no sheen, which adds to the softness and overall feel of each room, with accent added for a touch of flare, Watson says.

The kitchen now has open shelving, while the cabinets have all been created with clean lines, tall doors, and minimum-to-no exposed door pulls.

“There are reclaimed, heavy timber shelves for open storage, which ties into the reclaimed kitchen table slab that extends off the island,” he says. “The seating area that extends from the rustic wooded slab table invites in the living room environment, so that the space becomes a common area for everyone to enjoy together, while enjoying their own activities.”

Watson says one of his favorite elements incorporated into the

remodel is the Laufen cabinets and sinks in the bathrooms. The hanging wall cabinets tie right into the sinks, which he says allows for the small spaces to be more open and less cluttered.

“The beautiful tile floors expand with the hanging cabinets and really create a nice, clean bathroom environment,” he adds.

The plumbing fixtures, and the furniture in the unit, are all modern pieces, and Watson said the theme reflects an artful taste, while providing functionality.

“The owner’s family added a special final touch, which was their own photography,” Watson says.

One of his favorite pieces is in the master bedroom and can be seen from the stand-alone tub in the bathroom. The image is a tranquil, soft black-and-white scene, with floating leaves on water surrounded by a forest.

“It’s the perfect photo for the space,” he says. “All the photos add to the breathtaking transition of the home.” **VVH**