



The home above was built according to the original home plan. Some of the features include the red brick exterior and multiple gables.



Contemporary lighting and colored glass accents really pop in this modern dining room. The black dining set appears sleek and classy against the stark white walls.

# Bonus Rooms create flexibility

You found it – the perfect dream home! It has the exact number of bedrooms and bathrooms. The living room is great. The kitchen spacious, the mud room is ideal, and the storage is awesome. You even have a bonus room. Now, what to do with that space? Here lies the beauty of this space – you can do whatever you like! From newlyweds to families of five, the bonus room holds numerous possibilities for every homeowner to customize their design as they see fit. Here are a few of our favorites:



The homeowners decided to alter the plans slightly. They added the arches to the entry, dormers for additional light above the garage and different brick and stone exterior.



The arches as seen on the exterior are repeated throughout the interior of this version of the home plan. The dainty furniture, chandelier and subdued colors give this home a more traditional feel.

## The Play Room

Every mom wishes she had a place where she could put those extra toys, keeping them from clashing with her living room décor or ending up under her feet while she tries to fix dinner. So why not put that bonus room to good use as a designated Play Room? Organizational systems of cubbies, baskets, and shelves will keep an unruly collection of toys organized while providing enough space to enjoy playing with them. Bean bag chairs and play rugs in bright colors keep the room fun and functional. You could even break the room down into stations – an art area with chalkboard paint walls for your budding Van Gogh, a reading corner with special pillows and lighting, or a block table for the young architect. Keep this room child friendly and keep the mess out of the rest of the house.

Once you have determined the modifications you desire, it's time to get them done! Depending on your stock plan, the process may differ. Be prepared to submit a modification request form that should include detailed explanations of the modifications desired, referring to the rooms as they are on the stock plan. A quote will be returned to you within days. Accepting this quote will lead to approving drafts, and sooner rather than later you will be ready to start building.

At times the process to get the dream home you imagine may seem challenging and overwhelming. However, with a little patience and attention to detail, it is not impossible. Remember that designers and architects also benefit from your modification requests. By hearing directly from the customer what does and does not work for them, entirely new plans are often designed. And in the end, these enhanced plans turn your dream home into reality.





Plan #055D-0202, houseplansandmore.com



photo courtesy of Mateusz Staniszew, digitalart.com

## The Home Theater

To turn your bonus room into your personal theater experience, you need surprisingly few items. A quality television, proper media players, and surround sound are the best setup. Now that your theater is functional it's time to personalize your movie watching experience. Are you going to put in squashy chairs and couches or movie theater seats? Will you put in dimming ambient lights? How about that popcorn machine? After all, the primary reason you have a home theater is to enjoy cinema in unsurpassed comfort. Some homeowners with serious theater systems choose to have professional input and installation. Whether home designed or professionally outfitted, the home theater is a bonus room design enjoyed by all.



Plan #055D-0817, houseplansandmore.com



Plan #011S-0001, houseplansandmore.com

## The Home Gym

We all know someone who has purchased home workout equipment only to realize that the plan was not thought out. Bulky equipment is a pain to set up and take down everyday, so it often goes unused. If the equipment is left out, those machines always manage to take up awkward amounts of space. Even small free weights often find themselves in the way, causing stubbed toes and storage woes. Turning your bonus room into a Home Gym creates a designated space for all that equipment, plus allows options of customized flooring or built-in sound systems. Exercising is less of a chore without leaving the house!

*These bonus room suggestions help make the most of your dream home, turning extra space into functional areas.*

*When looking over your house plans, do not be afraid to customize the bonus room just as you would any other space.*

## The Family Gathering Spot

A mix of the Play Room and Home Theater, the family gathering spot is a place where the family can get together and relax. Filled with games, movies, and perhaps a snack area, this bonus room use is great for families that need an informal space to gather outside of the formal living spaces. Keep this space cozy and inviting for making family memories.



Plan #072S-0003, houseplansandmore.com



Plan #007D-0132, houseplansandmore.com

## The Home Office

If you choose to work from home, there is no more valuable a space than a bonus room Home Office. Remember that your home office is a reflection of you and the work you produce. Make it a priority to keep the space efficient and eye appealing with necessary storage, noise buffers, and organizational systems. Keeping this room working for you makes working from home a pleasant affair and ensures the bonus room is never a wasted space.