

# TsT Home Improvement Services LLC

## Tip of the Month

By Tom S. Truesdale

### Decks, Patios, Pavers

The spring and summer season is upon us and as the weather improves spending relaxing time outside with friends and family is an American tradition. An addition to or construction of a new deck, patio or paver area can add value to your home while providing outdoor recreational space. There are many options and several things that should be considered before beginning construction of a new patio, paver area or deck.

#### Consider size and layout.

- How many people would you like to accommodate?
- What type of outdoor furniture do plan to purchase?
- Will the space be used for outdoor cooking?
- Think about shading from the sun.

#### Decks:

- Treated lumber is the most cost effective but comes with ongoing maintenance and upkeep.
- Composite products are available and can be affordable but upfront material costs are higher than treated wood products.
- Lifetime guarantees are available on some products.
- Composite products as virtually maintenance free.
- Fully composite handrail systems with decorative caps, a variety of colors and railing spindles can add aesthetic uniqueness, the possibilities are virtually endless.

#### Concrete Patios:

- Concrete is a great option to consider if



you project is being built at grade level.

- Concrete is extremely durable and low maintenance.
- Up front placement cost is generally higher than wood but less than composite decking.
- Stamped concrete can provide a decorative look and the options are endless.
- Stamped concrete can equal or exceed the cost of a composite deck, depending on the complexity of the pattern.

#### Paver Areas:

- Pavers can provide a great blend with landscaping and planting.
- Proper installation is labor intensive and critical with pavers or else freeze thaw cycles can disrupt and damage the product.
- Paver systems can be built to incorporate a fire pit or custom outdoor fireplace. Something decks and concrete can not do.

Whether your project is a deck, concrete patio or an outdoor paver system, the options vary greatly from system to system, site to site. Planning and research of products should be carefully reviewed before starting your project. Depending on your location and type of project permitting may be required. Review your local building codes and always consult with a local qualified contractor for advice and guidance.

Hope you enjoy the upcoming outdoor season with family and friends.

# TsT Home Improvement Services LLC

## Helping people one job at a time...

# 317-550-8677

Plainfield, IN • email: [thomas\\_truesdale@yahoo.com](mailto:thomas_truesdale@yahoo.com)

### 1 FREE HOME IMPROVEMENT CONSULTING VISIT

Residential Renovations • Home Improvement Consulting • Home Additions  
Garages and Detached Buildings • Interior and Exterior Contracting • Build to Suit  
In Home Access and Mobility Solutions • Handyman Services