

Guest Column,

Flooring in Your New Home- My Interview with an Expert

By Ronnie Godfrey, CGB, president, R Godfrey Homes

In my last article I mentioned that, this week, we would delve deeper in to plumbing. However I had the opportunity to interview a flooring expert and felt you would forgive me for shifting things around. There will be more on plumbing later.

Today's article is an interview with Ken Stavenhagen co-owner of S&S Flooring. He has been in the flooring business for more than 13 years and is highly qualified to answer our questions about all types of residential flooring.

Ronnie: Greetings, Ken, thanks for visiting with me today. My first question; what kinds of flooring do you carry in your showroom and install?

Ken: We carry a full line of floor covering, including wood, tile, stone, carpet and laminate from most of the major manufactures.

Ronnie: What is the most popular flooring today, material and color?

Ken: Hard surfaces like wood, tile and stone. Dark stained woods with a hand scraped finish and tile and stone in earth tones.

Ronnie: What materials should we avoid?

Ken: That really depends on the application. Just make sure that you are using products in an application they are designed for.

Ronnie: Do you offer any other services?

Ken: We also offer a line of blinds and shutters and we work closely with a granite countertop supplier.

Ronnie: How long should a home buyer allow for order time?

Ken: Usually one to two weeks, depending on the product and installation schedule.

Ronnie: Do you offer a warranty on you workmanship, If so how long?

Ken: Yes, we offer a one year warranty on workmanship.

Ronnie: I have just a couple more questions. Is carpeting still sold by weight or does it matter anymore?

Ken: Yes, carpet is still sold by weight. However, you should also factor in the twist and density. A higher twist helps resist crushing & matting. A higher density improves the performance of the carpet. Carpet construction consists of the fiber, the backing, the latex used to hold the backings together, density of pile, pile height, twist level of the fiber, shearing or finishing, treatments for stain resistance, and the dye method used to put color onto the carpet. Additionally different carpets require different padding. Be sure to check with your flooring professional about the correct installation and padding required.

Ronnie: Maybe you could say a few words about padding.

Ken: It is very important to use a quality carpet pad. It can help to decrease pile crushing which can extend the life of the carpet. Some of the different types of padding are; Waffle rubber, rebond, fiber or jute, foam padding, slab rubber, berber pad and frothed foam.

Ronnie: Talk to me about the different types/quality of flooring tile.

Ken: There are two types of floor tile - ceramic and porcelain. Porcelain tile is harder and denser than ceramic. This allows porcelain tiles to be used in a wider variety of applications. Tiles vary in size, color, quality and price. Once again it is best to consult with your flooring professional.

Thanks Ken. From what we read here, I'm sure you can see why it is important to deal with a knowledgeable company. To learn more about carpet padding go to the link below. If you have more questions about flooring in general you can reach Ken Stavenhagen at 817 447 5600.

<http://www.carpetcushion.org/types.htm>

Next week we go back to Plumbing. Rub-a-dub-a-dub we'll talk about the tub.

The lovely lady that maintains our web site has placed most of our previous articles there for you to read if you desire. Go to www.RGodfreyHomes.com, click on "About Us," then "Published Articles."

"The entire law is summed up in a single command: "Love your neighbor as yourself." Gal. 5:14

For comments about this article contact Ronnie Godfrey at Ronnie@RGodfreyHomes.com or call 817 988 0149.