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## Decorating Our First Home

The trials and tribulations of decorating and renovating our home

### Kitchen renovations begin

Posted 8/15/2008 9:47 AM EDT

We decided on a granite counter top and much to our decorator Teresa Tocco's dismay, we chose the River White color. After searching Westwood Tile and Stone for what seemed like a thousand slabs of granite, the River White was the one that grabbed both of us. Although it wouldn't have been Teresa's choice, she is willing to work with it. We then had the daunting task of picking out tiles for our backsplash and deciding on flooring options. I give Teresa an amazing amount of credit for being able to look at a four tile backsplash sample and be able to envision it in our kitchen, a skill I absolutely lack! I am also grateful for her giving up a couple hours on a Saturday to sit with us while we went back and forth - "I don't know, what do you think?" "I don't know, what do you think?". We originally thought we'd go with vinyl tiles for the floor, but we were not able to find a vinyl we both liked. There were many more options in porcelain tile, and I think that is what we're going to go with. We are also very fortunate to have a personal friend and more importantly, a carpenter, Paul Gordon, who is helping us with installation. Paul has years of experience in kitchen renovations, in addition to a wealth of knowledge and skill in general home repair. We would not be as far in our home renovations without Paul's help, that's for sure!

I've been surprised with the home decorating/renovating process and at how tedious the process can be. There are a million choices and narrowing down the choices for our taste and budget has been a major undertaking. No wonder why in my last house the walls stayed white! It has also been a process in which despite a few tiffs, it has brought Len and I closer together. I am anxious to get the countertops installed so we can move on to the floor, backsplash, then painting and accessorizing the kitchen. It is truly an adventure!

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