



## CONTEST 2008



haven/The Edge My Dream Home Contest 2008 is open to detached/semi-detached, terraced homes and condominiums located in Kuala Lumpur or Selangor. Contest forms are available at The Edge (3rd floor), Lot 6, Jalan 51/217, 46050 Petaling Jaya (Tel: 03-77879988/9910), Pertubuhan Akitek Malaysia (PAM) Secretariat or Institut Perekabentuk Dalam Malaysia (IPDM) Secretariat, 4 & 6 Jalan Tangsi, 50480 Kuala Lumpur (Tel: 03-26934182/26915607). It may also be downloaded from [www.theedge.com](http://www.theedge.com).



ALL ENTRIES MUST REACH PAM SECRETARIAT BEFORE 5PM, MAY 12, 2008

# Master plan your renovation

**R**enovation — the word itself can be daunting when you begin thinking about where to start in turning your house into a dream home. For many, knowing where to begin is not the only challenge, as cost also matters. Many a time, people begin renovating only to realise later on that additions or modifications need to be made.

What's important to note when renovating is that you should have a master plan in hand and that turning your house into a dream home need not happen immediately. This is where a body like Architect Centre Sdn Bhd can be of assistance. A service centre by Pertubuhan Akitek Malaysia (PAM), Architect Centre will help you master plan your renovation step by step.

### Turning your house into a home

This begins with an Architect Centre pre-purchase house inspection, followed by moving in, settling in and attending to any urgent

repairs identified in your inspection report.

### Designing your dream

A central feature of the master plan is to map out a long-term design brief and assess feasibility, finance and future family needs. Your Architect Centre architect will provide creative direction to develop your ideas. Without a master plan, however, the road to renovation can be fraught with danger and ringgit signs. Here are a few examples:

- You spend thousands on a new ground floor bathroom, when, in a few years' time, the bathroom must come out to make way for the staircase to the first floor additions.
- You spend thousands on landscaping, when, in a few years' time, a family room extension replaces it.
- You spend thousands on dining furnishings when, in a few years' time, the space is converted to a home office. With a renovation report from



KENNY YAP

Save costs by renovating wisely

Architect Centre, you are assured that every ringgit you spend will contribute positively to your dream home vision. The report also showcases the advantages of planning a project stage by stage. Staging can ease financial constraints and allow you to pursue your renovation dream.

### The small renovation

This stage usually addresses high priority areas, commonly, the kitchen

and bathroom or an additional bedroom. In a few years' time, after building some home equity, you are ready to begin with the big renovation.

### The big renovation

This is what you have been working and saving for since your first sat down with your architect and developed your master plan. It may include an open plan, ground floor, living area

extension or even an upstairs addition with new bedrooms and a parents' retreat.

### The finishing touch

A couple of years after the big renovation, the finishing touch focuses on an independent feature of the master plan, which is more of a well-earned luxury than a necessity. This will include small luxuries like a pool, sauna or home theatre, for instance.