



THANK YOU.

This is one of the most difficult "thank you's" I've ever had to write because it is hard for me to put into words how much it means to me to be a home owner.

We all go through life wishing and wanting and striving for things that we think will make us happy. And about three years ago I decided, after visiting Boulder for almost 20 years, that I wanted to make it my home.

I have moved all over the United States, be it for family, school, work, (even a girlfriend or two) but never felt truly at home until I came here. It was the first time I recognized a physical place can have such an effect on the quality of one's life. And after a year of living here I could not see living anywhere else. So I decided to buy a home.

Because I had never owned anything and lived a fairly transient life, I never understood the attachment people developed for their homes or houses. I always thought it cliche to hear people talk about the trials and tribulations they encountered after buying a home. And at times some people spoke of their homes as almost another member of their family. Again, an idea truly foreign to me.

Over the years, I've worked hard. Dilligently saved my money. Looked with an eye toward the future, and I am grateful to say I was able to take my hard earned money and buy a house in a neighborhood, in a town, in a state that I think is truly remarkable.

It is a modest house. One of the smallest on the block. But it is my house. And I find myself full of gratitude to be able to say "this is my house". Now, when I bought it, she wasn't pretty by any means, but she had good bones and a lot of character. And as time passed, this house has become my haven from the outside world. A place I come to each night after a hard day of work, or even a great day enjoying the outdoors. It is my place. And it means the world to me.

About five months ago, I decided to continue the work I started on the inside to the outside of the house. I did my research, looked around for reputable contractors, interviewed several but kept coming back to the idea of using MELTON. I liked the idea of having an all inclusive approach to the work. The bidding of the job, the design process and the execution handled all by one company. One company, that quite frankly everyone I talked with said nice things about.

I had bad experiences with other contractors in the past and was determined not to be burned again. I knew I had made the right decision the day Tony Mitchell sat down with me before any work was done and asked me, "What is it that worries you the most about starting this job?" It took me off guard that a construction company would be that tapped into the experience of a home owner. My main concern was that the job would go on and on without a deadline in site. That concern was addressed and a schedule was made and after working with the MELTON architect Tom Cattany we were hitting the ground running.

What struck me the most was the willingness to listen. Clay Dusel came out to the house to bid the job and listened to how I wanted the outside of my house to reflect my vision of a home I wanted to live in. Tom Cattany listened when I had suggestions or questions or concerns about the look and feel of the design. He even came out to my house and stared at it with me for about an hour as we decided together on some design modifications. Something that was important to me because things can look one way on paper, but when executed in the real world take on a different look and feel. With Tom's guidance, I made an informed design decision that really made a huge difference in the look and feel of my house. And finally, and probably most importantly, Tony Mithcell listened to me every step of the way.

Tony managed the project as it got underway. He set up meetings once a week to go over progress. He checked in during the process to make sure things were done right. He understood how much even the littlest decision meant a lot to me. And like any huge undertaking, things don't always go as planned. This is where I was most impressed with Tony, Clay, Tom and the entire MELTON crew: It is easy when everything is going according to plan, but it is a true test of character when things don't go as planned. These guys always made things right. And that's what impressed me the most. Aside from the attention to detail, the craftsmanship, the design and execution, I cannot tell you how much it meant to me that they made it their mission to make my vision come together. It is especially meaningful to me that during the entire process, MELTON and Tony made me feel repsected and didn't talk over my head about the process. They, along with a stellar crew of workers made this a really enjoyable process. It is refreshing to work with people who have such great pride in what they do. Because what they do is more important that even I ever originally imagined: They were a huge part in making a place I love. They were the people that helped make my home. And for that, I want to thank them from the bottom of my heart. Your work was greatly appreciated.

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