

# Sechrist Construction and Remodeling, Inc.

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March 2024

## Tile—ALL THE RAGE



Rich Tones



Weathered

Tile is incredibly versatile surface for the home, adding interest and functionality to floors, backsplashes, showers, fireplaces, and more. It has been a staple within interiors for centuries, with a fascinating evolution of shapes, sizes, materials, colors, and patterns. This year, we will see a newfound enthusiasm for nature-inspired tile styles with an emphasis on texture, organic shapes, and bold color.

While bold design choices are being made, they're still being balanced with simplicity and a dose of minimalism that creates harmonious and exciting spaces.



## 2024 TILE TRENDS



Textured

Textured tile leans on its raised and recessed qualities to add dimension and interest to a space. From floors and backsplashes, to shower stalls, fireplaces, and even entire walls, tactile tiles give any surface that organic, handcrafted feel while still holding very subtle contrasts and variations. There are different types of textured tiles that include fluted, slate, mosaic, wood-look, stack stone and metal. Textured tile provides much visual interest to a space.

There have been an influx of color palettes that are inspired by nature including deep blues, purples, greens as well as warm, desert inspired neutrals. Homeowners are being drawn to cultivate a grounding, soothing atmosphere in their home with tiles such as terracotta, deep blues, and lush greens are ideal for creating a relaxed atmosphere reminiscent of nature.

Finally, there are geometric patterns returning in 2024. They come in a whole host of shapes,



sizes, and colors. Patterned tiles allow you the opportunity to create a unique and personal look in your home, with many exciting options available in porcelain, ceramic, or encaustic tile. Moroccan tile is a great option, as well as tiled printed with emblems such as stars, circles, lines and abstract shapes. The use of pattern and color only serve to infuse your home with personality and character, making it all YOURS!

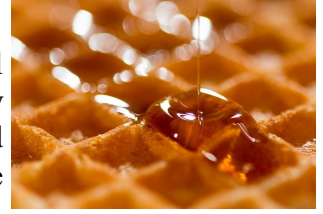


# Email the Expert

## Batter UP for Waffle Day

March 25

Waffles are delightful golden and doughy treats with unique grid patterns that have been enjoyed for centuries around the world.



They began as simple flat cakes cooked on stones in Ancient Greece to be used as unleavened communion wafers. Eventually they made their way to medieval Europe in the 13th century, where they became a popular treat during religious festivals. The term “waffle” itself is derived from the Dutch word “wafel,” which referred to the honeycomb pattern found on the cakes.

By the 18th century the waffle iron was invented in France. Thomas Jefferson is credited with introducing waffle irons to America after returning from France, where he became enamored with the delectable treats.

Then, somehow waffles went from breakfast to supper when they were paired with chicken in the southern states during the 1930s when restaurants began to serve chicken and waffles to jazz musicians and celebrities after their late-night performances. Chicken and waffles remain a trendy comfort food to this day being served in various upscale restaurants across the United States. Delightful! Delectable!

**WAFFLE** you waiting for?

**Q**—Our water saving showerhead is very old now and it doesn't spray water out evenly. What is your suggestion on how to go about installing a new shower head.

**A**—Installing a new shower head is an easy DIY project. You will be able to have your shower head up and flowing in an hour. There are several styles of water saving shower heads to choose from to help you to continue to conserve water without sacrificing an enjoyable shower experience.

Remove the existing shower head with a wrench or pliers. Wipe down and remove dirt and old tape from the shower arm. Wrap new tape around the threads on the shower arm to prevent leaks. Finally, install the new shower head. Hold the shower arm with one hand and use your other hand to fasten the bracket onto it, rotating in a clockwise direction.

Do you have a question you would like to ask? EMAIL THE EXPERT by sending your question to [steve@sechristconstruction.com](mailto:steve@sechristconstruction.com). Please be sure to include your name and phone number in case additional information is required to answer your question.



Today's Chuckle: “A day without sunshine is like, you know, night.”

*Steve Martin*



## THE SPRING THAW— It's Just Around the Corner!

Spring officially starts on March 20. In addition to rising temperatures and longer daylight hours, melting ice, possible snow and the ground produces a winter thaw. A thaw means extra water around your home. Take several steps to prevent water damage to your home.

**Inspect Your Roof**—Visually inspect your roof and remove any ice dams. Note any damaged or sagging areas. Hire a professional to perform any necessary repairs.

**Repair Gutters and Downspouts**—Check to make sure they are not clogged or damaged. Clear away any debris. Replace broken pieces or install downspout extenders as you divert water away from your home. Install gutter guards.

**Prepare the Basement**—Test the sump pump. Install backflow valves to prevent expensive sewer backups. Move items to higher ground for protection.



Water damage is a nightmare that no homeowner wants to face. This type of property damage can leave a house with structural faults and safety hazards. Often the extent of the damage as well as the potential dangers are hidden from the homeowner. Many homeowners wonder, “What does water damage restoration include?” “Will my insurance company cover it?”

The good news is experienced professionals can identify the full extent of the damage and restore a water-damaged house to its original condition. With water damage, it is critical to act quickly because the water damage only worsens over time, and the repairs become more extensive as time passes.

Call on us for water mitigation which is preventing further damage after the home has been exposed to water. Call us for water restoration, which is returning the home to its previous state. We have 24 hour emergency service, 7 days a week for all your mitigation, restoration and water damage emergency needs.

“Spring is the time of plans and projects.” Leo Tolstoy

## New Chapter, New Home, New You

You had your closing, moved all your belongings into your new home and locked the door for the first time. Your thoughts will race ahead of you just by standing in the shadow of the doorway that leads into the rest of the dwelling. Bet you have already thought of 10 items you would like to change or make new in this retreat you call home. STOP! Take a deep breath and dive into some “must dos” home maintenance projects that you need to handle in the first year of buying a home. The DIY projects will wait.



Do this every year at the same time.

- ◆ Check Your Furnace and HVAC Filters—How long has it been since the filters have been replaced. If you note that they are dirty looking now is the time to remove and replace.

- ◆ Service and Clean the Furnace—Call a pro. Having your furnace inspected every fall will prolong the life of your appliance.
- ◆ Know where your main shut off valve is and how to turn it off in an emergency.
- ◆ Check smoke and carbon monoxide detectors
- ◆ Recaulk Your Windows—When applying the caulk, make sure all surfaces are clean and

- ◆ dry and pay attention to the temperature specifications in the product information.
- ◆ Check and Touch Up Exterior Paint—look for chipping, peeling, or cracking on every part, including the trim. Touch up small areas every summer.
- ◆ Have Wood-Burning Fireplaces and Chimneys Inspected and Cleaned by a trained chimney sweep every fall before fire-burning season.
- ◆ Inspect the Gutters for debris Clean twice a year.
- ◆ Change the locks and reconnect the alarm system
- ◆ Connect the utilities



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[www.sechristconstruction.com](http://www.sechristconstruction.com)

Serving all of Clinton  
and Lycoming  
Counties

## CREW

**Steve Sechrist**

**Brian Budman**

**Phil Cline**

**Sara Hart**

**David Lehman**

**LoganMcAndrew**

**Caleb Nelson**

**Kevin Snyder**



**Check out our Website:**  
**[www.sechristconstruction.com](http://www.sechristconstruction.com)**

## FROM THE DESK:

Our business is built on referrals, relationships and experience. The construction process is broken down into six phases:

- ◆ client idea (planning and development)
- ◆ design (where dreams meet doable)
- ◆ pre-construction (start date)
- ◆ procurement (buying the materials)
- ◆ construction (dirt moving, pouring concrete, bending the rebar, hammering, sawing, debris)
- ◆ post-construction (inspections, punch lists, sign offs)

Each phase has its own set of challenges— Change orders, supply chain disruptions, unexpected costs, weather and schedules. It takes a community of people to work together seamlessly to meet all the tasks and deadlines on a single project.

We are excited to become part of that community of people and take on new work for you. We look forward to making your dreams come true.

Steve

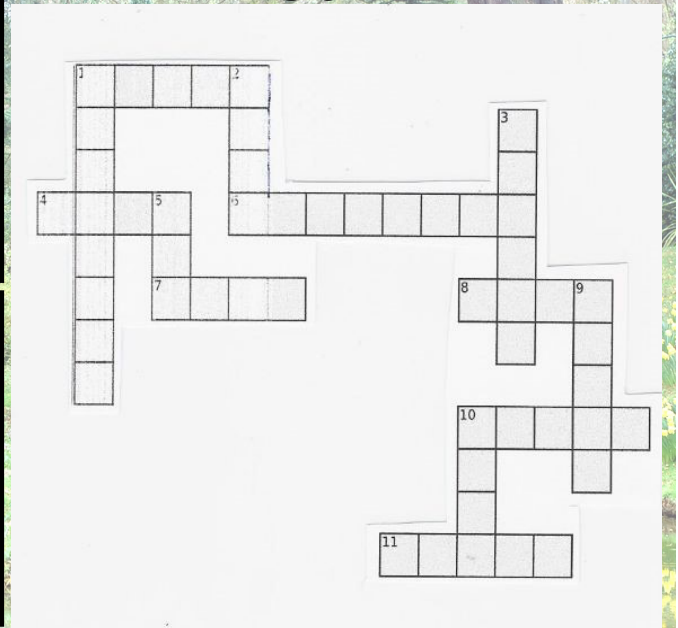
### DOWN

1. Rainy Day Wear
2. Burpee Product
3. Flower Dust
5. Dirty Kind of Pie
9. Bulb Bloom
- 10 April Weather

### ACROSS

1. Ground Cover
4. Rainy Day Bird Food
6. Sign of Spring
7. Drake
8. Avian Abode
10. Boy Wonder
11. Johnny Jump Up

## ALMOST TIME



**DIY FRIENDS IN:** Enjoying your friends' company doesn't necessarily mean you have to splurge on an expensive night out on the town. Invite your friends over for a scrumptious, mouthwatering homemade meal and play cards, board games or crash in the living-room for a movie night.