



# WOMEN'S EDITION

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## View From The Top

Is your bathtub impossible to clean? Is your sink sporting some unsightly chips? Do you want those bathroom or kitchen tiles to shimmer again without having to replace them?

If so, Andrea Christensen of Quick & New Refinishing says she has the solution for revitalizing the look of your home, business, or apartment complex while saving you money for bigger and better things. Customers can experience an updated look in their kitchen or bath and realize savings while avoiding the mess and expense of tearing out the old and installing the new, she adds.

Using an ISO-free acrylic finish that is safer for the environment, Quick & New Refinishing will resurface porcelain or fiberglass finishes on wall tiles, kitchen countertops, sinks, tubs, showers, cabinets, and even appliances in both residential and commercial settings. They have even started working on meat coolers and swimming pools. "When we're done it's virtually new," says Andrea, a former regional manager who supervised 30 employees and oversaw 18 commercial properties in the Midwest before starting her own business nearly three years ago.

Kendall Schuster, a local remodeling contractor, says Andrea is very good at what she does. "She's very particular. And when she says she's going to be there, she's there. She's very professional, very neat, and very prompt."

After working closely with contractors like Kendall on rehabilitation projects, Andrea thought it would be easier to satisfy her customers if she had her own employees to do resurfacing work. So she gave up her 60-plus hour workweek and now sets her own hours doing something she knows a lot about. The business, which she runs out of her south Lincoln home, is making a name for itself among local contractors and home-owners who are doing remodeling projects, she says.

With nine years of experience in the apartment industry overseeing rehabilitation projects like the ones she now helps complete, Andrea knows what commercial property owners are looking for when it comes to remodeling results. "They want the best return for their money on their investment," she explains.

Bathtub resurfacing jobs start at \$249, which is about half the price of replacing a tub, Andrea says. Quick & New Refinishing claims that

### Quick & New Refinishing By Jodi Fuson



Andrea Christensen, Owner

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refinishing is 70% more cost-effective than replacing your current tub.

It's quick, too. Andrea says her crew can do four to five resurfacing jobs a day. "When we have someone move out, we need it done quick," says Jodi Broekemeier, a regional manager for Hayloft Management of Lincoln. She contracts with Quick & New Refinishing for resurfacing jobs. Jodi says she likes the fact that the work is backed by a five-year warranty. "With the turnover the way it is, having a five-year warranty is much, much better," she says.

Jodi originally called Quick & New Refinishing to resurface her claw-foot tub shortly after Andrea started her business two-and-a-half years ago. She was so satisfied that she has contracted with Andrea to complete several tub and countertop refinishing jobs in the apartment buildings she manages.

Jodi says that Andrea is easy to work with and is very dependable. "We can always get something scheduled immediately, and they always do a great job of cleaning up when they're done," she says. Jodi adds that she likes how they are able to match the color of any surface and make it look new again.

A few months ago, Andrea asked if Jodi would put up a promotional sign for Quick & New Refinishing, and she didn't hesitate. "I highly recommend her," Jodi states. "I know some of my employees at the properties have recommended her to family and friends as well."

Jodi's claw-foot tub is a testimony to the quality of Quick & New Refinishing's work, she shares. The whole bottom surface had peeled off before it was redone by Andrea's crew, and there are no visible cracks or chips two years later, Jodi reports. "It's still perfect."

Kendall says he is pleased with the 40-plus jobs Andrea has completed for him too. "Everything she's done, I've had zero problems with," he says. "There's no babysitting involved."

Andrea says she went through the resurfacing training so she knows what is involved, but she sticks to scheduling the work, marketing her business, and following up with customers to make sure they are satisfied. Her three full-time employees take on resurfacing jobs in homes, hotels, and apartments in Lincoln and beyond. They've even done work at apartment communities in Manhattan, Kansas.

Customers who meet Andrea are usually a bit curious when she shows up to bid a job. They sometimes ask if she does the work herself. "It's kind of a shock to them," Andrea says. "Being a woman in this business is almost unheard of. Getting started, getting your name out there is probably the hardest thing," she goes on to say. Starting her own business has been worth it though, she adds, and is a good match with her dominant personality. Andrea likes being in charge and being able to support herself, and owning her own business has made that possible.

Andrea admits that it can be hard to work from her home-based office at times. "Sometimes I could find 1,000 other things to do (than work)." A typical day for her includes bidding jobs, answering calls, scheduling her employees, placing advertisements on the radio and in print media, and following up with customers.

Despite the occasional distraction, Andrea believes her independent spirit, hard work, and self-discipline have helped her to be successful as a business owner. "It's still way more self-fulfilling than making money for someone else," she says. "Being a business owner is very challenging, but it is very flexible. The only thing that can make you or break you is yourself."

Andrea hopes to expand her business knowledge to another venture soon. "My hope and dream is to get my clothing boutique started," she shares. Andrea is looking for a space to lease in the Union College area, and plans to have the business up and running within the next year. "Once you have business sense, you have business sense," she says of her qualifications.

Homeowners and commercial property owners interested in having countertops, tubs, showers, and tile revitalized can call Quick and New Refinishing at 432-3535 or send an e-mail to [andrea@quicknewrefinishing.com](mailto:andrea@quicknewrefinishing.com). For "before" and "after" photographs of tub, shower, and bathroom refinishes completed by Quick & New Refinishing, visit the Web site at [quicknewrefinishing.com](http://quicknewrefinishing.com).

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