

Best Views

State-of-the-art audio-visual technology can take home theaters to a new level. But beyond the electronic essentials, certain extras can add another dimension to movie watching. Steve Pabon, president of ECS Home Entertainment in Morganville; Robert Kowalski, president of Premier Home Theater in Newton; and Joe Zagorski, president of Cross Roads Audio Video in Edison; suggest additions that will enhance your home theater.

- A touch-screen remote to control all equipment and lighting
- Tiered seating with comfort and support
- Independent climate control for theater
- Motorized curtains in front of screen
- A fiber-optic ceiling to create starry-sky effect
- Lighted aisles
- A grand threshold
- Light fixtures that won't rattle when the sound gets loud
- Acoustical panels on walls



Photos by Patricia Burke



PAST AND PRESENT: Exit signs recycled from the Mayflower Hotel in Asbury Park set the tone for a theater at Liz and Pat Boyle's Spring Lake getaway home. "I tried to capture the drama of that period," says Suzette Donleavy of Well-Designed Interiors in Shrewsbury. Donleavy used velvet for stage curtains and the 12 seats plus leather-upholstered doors with nail-head designs. Along with the popcorn machine, the theater has a snack bar at the back, and the front lobby has a candy counter (opposite). **SOURCES:** architecture, Lederer and Wright Partnership Architects in Bay Head; electronics, Home Entertainment Systems in Matawan; general contractor and builder, Richard R. Hall Custom Homes LLC in Brick; cabinetry and millwork, Dovetail Designs in Toms River; chairs, First Impressions Theme Theaters in North Miami, Florida; carpeting, Rug Décor in Red Bank; gilding on ceiling, Diane Ellison in Oceanport; custom leather doors, Aljays Interiors in Lakewood; drapes, Fiolek Designs in Shrewsbury; antique exit signs, Recycling the Past in Barnegat; woodwork finishing, Gulotta & Gallante Finishes in Long Branch; sconces, Metropolitan Lighting in New York City; acoustic panels, Acoustic Smart in Merrick, New York.