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Kitchens *The Best of the Best*

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DISPLAY UNTIL FEBRUARY 26, 2010

#BXNPNM *****CRR-RT LOT**C-00
#0023668/TPHLO/ MAR13
DE3 ATHOS J/F10 0001 # 90 #11972
AMY MORRIS
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BOOKS
N
&
CLASSIC

STYLE

(kitchens)

WRITTEN BY
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The classic walnut island was actually a creative collaboration among all members of the design team—even one of the homeowners. “We were wandering through Scott’s [Antique Market] and Amy saw an antique farm table and said, ‘that would be perfect for your island, but it’s too small,’” recounts the homeowner. “So, I sketched it up, showed it to Brad, and he remade it just like that piece of furniture but in a larger, island size. It looks so much like the original.”

Heart of the HOME

A renovated kitchen for a downsizing couple becomes a cozy backdrop for gatherings of family and friends

THE HEART OF THIS RENOVATED BROOKHAVEN HOME, designed by architect Bradley Heppner and interior designer Amy Morris, is a kitchen that's all about balance. The owners were downsizing from a larger house, but wished to retain all of the character, function and spaciousness of their former abode.

"We wanted to keep the colonial, traditionally based look the homeowners wanted, but make it clean and functional," says Morris. "One of the things that makes it so modern is that there is no upper cabinet wall." Instead, the designer installed beveled white subway tiles from the countertops all the way to the ceiling, using gray-tinted grout to really make the tiles pop.

Rustic touches, like salvaged wood beams, add warmth while laying the groundwork for the scale of more decorative elements, including large lanterns and a statement-making island. Though it's packed with storage space, the island retains an airy appearance, while the focal point of the room, a large antique wooden clock—permanently stuck at 5:00 cocktail hour—serves as a conversation piece.

To maximize storage, the lower cabinetry is primarily made up of drawers, with additional storage carved out in adjacent spaces in order to maintain the kitchen's streamlined look. In the nearby mudroom, a stairwell is outfitted with floor-to-ceiling cabinets, the perfect place for cleaning supplies. And there's more storage in the pantry, discreetly located behind a paneled wall in the butler's pantry hall.

There's balance, too, in the colors and materials chosen by the designer. "If you change the color of the island from the rest of the cabinetry, then the countertops need to change, as well," she explains. Thus, Morris decided against using marble on the perimeter, opting instead for walnut surfaces—a reverse of the colors used on the island—to complement the room's warm, rich feel.



STYLE (kitchens)



DESIGN DETAILS

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left "A lot of designers try to reinvent the way we live as opposed to updating traditional style," notes architect Bradley Heppner. Working with interior designer Amy Morris, he created a kitchen that has many traditional elements, but still feels modern and clean, thanks in large part to the spacious tiled wall and minimal wall cabinetry. The two also took great care to balance design elements in every detail. Even the unconventionally large bead on the cabinetry works with overscaled elements such as salvaged-wood ceiling beams and oversize lanterns. *below* The darker, more dazzling butler's pantry boasts a rich gray finish and a formal paneled wall that hides extensive storage and a microwave neatly out of sight.

RESOURCES

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