The Kitchen Issue!

All About Entertaining in, Decorating and Enjoying your Kitchen

PLUS

WHERE TO DINE ALFRESCO TOURING THE COTSWALDS HUNTING FOR MAJOLICA WHAT TO WEAR NOW AND SO MUCH MORE!
When Carol Winner and Carl Weiner found this sprawling stone house tucked away on a hillside in Mission Hills, they fell in love with it. “It feels as though you’re in the south of France,” Carl says of the shaded and terraced home. Lots of work was required, though, for it to function for the couple and their blended family of four children. The kitchen, designed by Portfolio Kitchen & Home, now sits in the space originally occupied by the dining room. The couple breakfasts at the island bar, enjoying the light flooding in the large, floor-to-ceiling bay window with views out to the terrace. Dramatic slabs of honed Carrera marble serve as both countertops and backsplash. “We thought it would be a perfect contrast to the cherry cabinets,” Carl says. Viking appliances stand up to serious cooks; delicate pendant lights from Wilson Lighting hang above the island. The custom cabinetry includes a banquette that circles around a table just off the kitchen. “Carol designed that,” Carl says, “and Dave Zebley of Portfolio brought it to life.” That’s where the family usually has dinner. It may not be a kitchen in the south of France, but it’s the next best thing.
La Dolce Vita

A rambling ranch home wraps its arms around a new family
They really weren’t looking for a new home. Jigger and Traci James—and their blended family of 6 children—were very happy in a house they had renovated in Mission Hills. But a real-estate agent called anyway and suggested they take a peek at an older Overland Park house that had just come on the market. “I love to look at houses, so I said ‘why not?’” Traci recalls. “I was three steps in this house and I felt like it wrapped its arms around me;” she says. “It was a wow house.” She persuaded Jigger to “just take a look,” and he, too, was hooked. In an hour, they made an offer.

As lovely as the house undoubtedly was, however, the Jameses still needed to make it fit the way they liked to live. And four years later, they’ve done it, with most of the renovation done by Jigger’s company Repairs Unlimited.

First on the agenda was to put their own stamp on the newer hearth kitchen
Copper accents—in the hand-crafted lighting, in the leather covering the bar stools and in the antique cooking pots and pans displayed on top of the cabinets—pick up the coppery tones of the wood cabinetry.
In the kitchen, a stucco and brick fireplace is flanked by two comfy club chairs that can swivel toward the fire or toward the cook.

and great room wing. The mellow wood cabinetry, soft green walls, and granite counters of cream flecked with burnt sienna and raw umber were already in place. As were the Thermador cooktop, Sub-Zero refrigerator, and handcrafted pendant lights in aged copper. Adding bar stools with copper-colored leather seats around the island made the kitchen perfect for a cook who wants to work while entertaining her guests as Traci does.

Two Pearson armchairs in an indestructible pumpkin, sage, and black fabric keep the muted tones but add a touch of drama. Arranged in front of the see-through fireplace, they provide a favorite spot to enjoy a glass of wine in winter. The dog-bone shaped ottoman is a tribute to the family Wheaten terrier, Tui.

The banquette area, with its expansive windows, brings the outdoors in. Traci found the bronze tree-limb table base in High Point, North Carolina, with her interior designer
The deep, pillow-backed banquette surrounds a table made of two cast-bronze tree bases topped with glass.
seen & noted

Creative storage abounds in the James kitchen.

1. Handy drawers are tucked away under the banquette.

2. Two deep, arched entries lead from the kitchen to the great room, each flanked with built-in storage.

3. All the James’ collection of napkins are cleverly cached in a vintage basket stored right next to the banquette.