

HOME & LIVING FEATURING

KITCHEN

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Command central

It's the busiest room in the house, so it pays to get it right. These pages highlight a variety of family kitchens, which all reflect an emphasis on good space planning and social interaction



Room with a view

Symmetrical windows and limited wall space helped determine the design of this family kitchen

Open-plan kitchens are well suited to family living, but incorporating a kitchen within a great room means fewer walls for cabinets and appliances.

The kitchen in this new house is positioned at one end of a large great room, which features extensive windows. Designer Stephen King of Snaidero says two symmetrical windows within the kitchen, and the need to place the range

on an exterior wall, influenced the work triangle.

"We wanted the main sink to be opposite the range, hence its position on the island. This also means the owners can enjoy the view and socialize while preparing meals."

King says the layout left just one short wall for the large appliances, so this is where the refrigeration was placed.

"The design of the kitchen

was also influenced by the style of the house, which provides a modern take on a traditional theme," he says. "Shaker panel doors on cherry wood cabinets enhance the transitional look – it was important not to have anything too fussy or bulky."

The cabinetry provides storage within the island as well as around the perimeter of the space. Just one set of overhead cabinets is included. For

ease of access, one hinged door opens both the top display cabinets and the units below.

To add visual interest, King varied the shape of the island at the front – the pushed-out cabinets echo the shape of the window nook beside the breakfast table.

Butler's pantries between the kitchen and formal dining room provide more storage. One of these includes wine

refrigerators and a sink.

A multi-colored mosaic backsplash and contrasting brushed Absolute Black and Harvest Cream granite countertops enliven the space. The lighter granite also features on the side of the peninsula, where it mimics the home's clapboard exterior.

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Kitchen designer: Stephen King, Snaidero USA (Greenwich, CT)

Kitchen manufacturer: Snaidero
Cabinetry: Esmeraldo in Oxford cherry

Countertops: Harvest Cream and brushed Absolute Black granite

Backsplash: Glass mosaic by Erin Adams for Arin Sacks Tile

Sinks: Blanco; Elkay

Faucets: Hansgrohe
Range: Viking

Ventilation: Zephyr from Cheng Design

Refrigeration: Sub-Zero

Dishwasher: Miele integrated

Preceding pages: This family kitchen forms part of a large great room. Its transitional look reinforces the contemporary styling of the house.

These pages: A colorful glass mosaic backsplash features in both the main kitchen and butler's pantries. A Zephyr hood, designed by Fu-Tung Cheng, creates a strong focal point.

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