

# KITCHEN AND BATH IDEAS

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Clutter  
p. 17

## Ultimate Storage Issue

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October 2010  
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**THIS PHOTO:** The dark celery green on the base cabinets and the light yellow on the wall cabinets work with the black-island base and the granite perimeter countertops to ground the space and provide a sense of depth. **OPPOSITE:** The alluring arch of the faucet harmonizes with the mix of stainless-steel and glass mosaic tiles on the backsplash.



# space to unwind

*A smart vacation home renovation produces a bigger, brighter kitchen brimming with storage.*

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Black beaded board and creamy yellow beams create a striking contrast overhead, while antique heart pine underfoot warms the room—and provides an old-fashioned counterpoint to the modern stainless-steel touches.



## BYAWASHAT

When Dana and Mike Bowers bought this home in Seaside, Florida, they envisioned it as a place to entertain friends and family.

"We had the family down for Thanksgiving in 2008 and realized that, while the rest of the house accommodated our large family quite well, the old kitchen wasn't keeping up," Dana says.

"We needed more pantry storage, more refrigeration and freezer space, and more ovens. Essentially, we needed a new kitchen."

Not just new, but bigger. Architect Leo Casas suggested gaining square footage by commandeering a seldom used exterior porch.

The couple agreed, but theirs wasn't the only approval needed. Seaside's architectural codes required that an addition appear as if it had been part of the original structure, so Casas carefully placed windows and shutters to create a seamless look.

The expansion added 130 square feet, more than enough to hold all the elements the couple wanted, including a large kitchen island and a peninsula separating the kitchen and the adjoining dining room.

There wasn't enough space for a walk-in pantry, so the custom-designed cabinetry extends to the ceiling to maximize storage.

A library ladder provides access to the top row of cabinets. Cleverly concealed pullouts store spices, bottles, platters, and trays.

### FAST FACTS

**LOCATION:** Seaside, Fl.

**HOME STYLE:** Beach house

**KITCHEN STYLE:** Transitional

**FUN FACT:** Eliminating soffits afforded the extra space needed for storing everything in the kitchen.

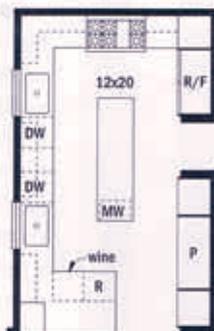
## TAKEAWAYS

- 1 A stainless-steel countertop on the island complements a reflective backsplash.
- 2 Two sets of dishwasher drawers between the sinks ease cleanup.
- 3 Beverage refrigerators and a liquor cabinet on the peninsula allow guests to help themselves while staying out of the work area.
- 4 A countertop appliance garage makes use of a hidden corner.
- 5 Black granite countertops and a black-painted ceiling balance the colorful cabinetry.

**NOTE:** The small peninsula serves as a bar area, complete with undercounter beverage chillers and a pullout liquor cabinet. **BELOW:** A deep, cased archway provides a gracious transition from the dining room to the colorful kitchen.



Appliances were also chosen with capacity in mind. Paired refrigerators with stacked freezer drawers below give the couple plenty of space to stock up on food for a house full of guests. Twin dual-drawer dishwashers easily handle the postmeal load.



Dana also opted for two sink areas. "When you cook for a large family, there are a lot of messes that are made before you ever sit down for the meal," she says. "The two sinks work great. I use the one in the prep area while I'm cooking and then pass along my dirty dishes to the cleanup area."

The only element remaining from the original kitchen is the antique heart pine flooring. The new kitchen's color scheme coordinates with the rest of the house for a sense of continuity. For example, the library provided the inspiration for the beamed ceiling and its rich black beaded board. "The black was also

picked up in the body of the island cabinet, which paired well with the stainless-steel countertop and colorful perimeter cabinets," Casas says.

The redesign was such a success that the Bowerses hired Casas to design an addition to their permanent residence that will include a new kitchen with many of the solutions he used here. In the meantime, they enjoy their cheerful, spacious new kitchen in their home away from home. **KBI**

RESOURCES BEGIN ON PAGE 134.

## storage details

**1.** This hardworking kitchen features twin dishwashers, a trash compactor, and separate sinks for prep and cleanup. **2.** Transom cabinets take the place of soffits and are within reach thanks to a library ladder that rolls along a rail. The slim pullout shelf below the pantry cabinet provides a temporary landing space for items without permanently intruding on the walkway.

**3.** The refrigerators were chosen for their capacity as well as their ability to blend in with the cabinetry. A narrow pullout spice rack and an appliance garage fill the corner with easy-to-access storage. **4.** To avoid wasted or inaccessible space in the corner cabinet, architect Leo Casas installed a corner pullout unit for large cookware. **5.** A panel above the peninsula counter hides a pullout liquor cabinet, which is accessible from both the dining room and kitchen.



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