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Fit for a crowd

Two serious cooks with a pint-size workspace order up a redo that's one part period style, one part party central

BY DEBORAH BALDWIN • PHOTOGRAPHS BY ALEX HAYDEN

→ **EMPTY NESTERS KNOW** what they want, and Chuck Hanson and Alicia Randolph, parents of two 20-somethings, are no different. "The whole family likes to cook, and the opportunity to entertain," says Chuck, of the need to rework the congested kitchen in their Seattle Tudor Revival. So yes, they asked for a pro-style range and a more open, free-flowing layout that would unite prep and gathering space. JAS Design Build worked with the couple to provide for storage and legroom needs, without tearing

down walls. "Now every inch counts," says designer Kim Clements, who was mindful of the couple's expertise as physical therapists in designing a compact, ergonomic workspace for two—or more. She chose fewer upper cabinets, widened a passageway, and added a Dutch door to create light-filled noshing and chopping zones. New windows are trimmed to match the home's original 1920s woodwork, and finishes have a warm, period feel. Says Chuck about the now high-functioning space, "It gives us joy every day."



BEFORE

BEFORE The small, dated cooking zone was not conducive to teamwork or socializing.

AFTER Reorganized, refinished, and more open to the backyard and dining room, the kitchen is now a high-functioning entertaining magnet.

An apron sink pays equal tribute to convenience and cottage style. Fewer upper cabinets means a more open feel, and more room for art. Sink: Rohl. Faucet: Kohler. Sconce: Circa. Dishwasher: Bosch



Honed marble counters, clear-coated wood trim, perforated-metal cabinet fronts, and dark hardware contribute to the timeless look. Paint: Farrow & Ball's Lamp Room Gray (cabinets). Knobs and pulls: Rejuvenation. Tile: Ann Sacks

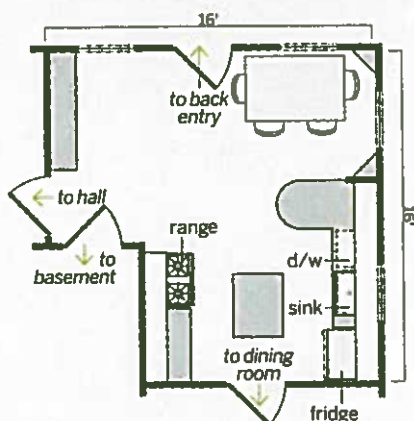
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before

A rounded peninsula delineated the congested workspace.



after

Rejiggering the layout and opening it up gave the same-size kitchen more function and a roomier feel.

1. Replaced tall cabinets with a space-saving banquette to serve the relocated eating nook.

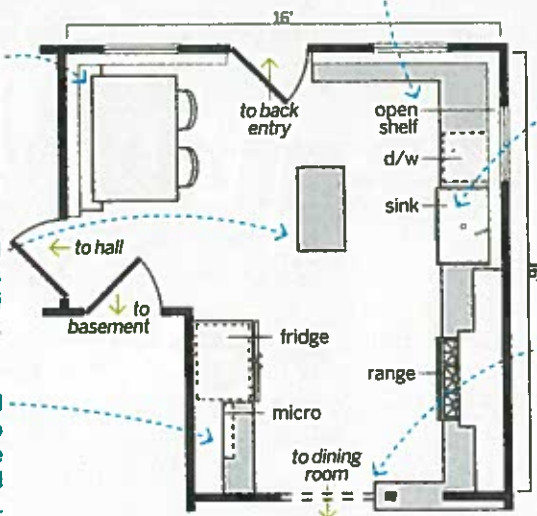
2. Added a small island on wheels that can be moved around as needed.

3. Stacked cabinets next to the new fridge spot, freeing wall space elsewhere.

4. Moved the cleanup zone to the eating area's former location, adding a run of base cabinets.

5. Ditched the peninsula and relocated the range to the old sink spot, with a vent hood where a window had been.

6. Removed a swinging door and widened the opening slightly, adding a built-in.



The new Dutch door and windows, whose simulated divided lights were made with lead tape, nod to original leaded-glass windows in the dining room. Windows: Marvin



An open shelf and horizontal V-groove paneling unite the eating nook and the cooking zone. Wall-hung cushions help conserve banquette space. Pendant: Rejuvenation. Floral fabric: B. Berger



homeowner tip CHUCK HANSON, SEATTLE
 “To maximize storage and reinforce the kitchen’s cottage style, we added an open shelf with brackets that wraps the eating nook and cooking space.”

The custom island rolls aside to open up the room for gatherings. The blackboard evokes a time before grocery lists were kept on phones. Sconce: Rejuvenation



Brackets now frame the opening to the dining room to suggest an arch, echoing original arched openings in the house. Range: Viking