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Ideas for Your Home

# Remodel

Your Questions Answered

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Fresh Ideas for Family Homes

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**Maximize Storage in a Small Kitchen**  
**Add Space Without Adding On** p. 35

BHG SIP Green Checkout





# Give & Take

With one less wall and a lot more storage, this 1920s kitchen proves it can function for a modern family yet retain its roots.

WRITTEN BY JASON MILLER PHOTOGRAPHED BY MARK LOHMAN  
PRODUCED BY ROBIN TUCKER

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In Danette and Bill Stein's tiny 1920s kitchen, their two young sons had no trouble enjoying family meals—but the time together was a little uncomfortable for the adults. "We actually had a toddler-size table, and the four of us crowded around it on tiny chairs," Danette says. "I wanted an eating area." So the Steins hired designer Mary Kenyon to make the kitchen in their Pasadena, California, home more workable—especially for the grown-ups.

But with only 188 square feet, the space presented a challenge. "The room didn't function well at all," Kenyon says. Storage was scarce, and the cooking area was walled off from an adjoining laundry area, making the room feel even smaller. "The kitchen had been redone, but not thoughtfully," she says.

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**LEFT** Although this kitchen is only 188 square feet, the new layout creates a bright, spacious, and workable environment. Food preparation and cleanup areas are located along the sink wall, where upper cabinets flank a double window. Opposite is a storage wall with a pantry, broom closet, and refrigerator. Natural oak flooring throughout the kitchen visually connects the room to the rest of the home.



**THIS PHOTO** The new space-saving banquette serves as seating as well as storage: The lift-up benches house bulky, rarely used items, while a drawer at one end holds everyday table linens.

The Steins were willing to move the laundry to the garage, so Kenyon took down the dividing wall and used the space to add a pantry and a broom closet, as well as relocate the refrigerator. The new layout also improves access to the patio; it's now a straight shot from the kitchen instead of a jaunt through the laundry room. On the opposite wall, a soapstone countertop extends the length of the kitchen, and upper cabinets add much-needed storage. Above the new single bowl sink, a window styled after others in the home welcomes light into the space.

An L-shape banquette grants the Steins' wish for informal family dining. Tucked into the corner opposite the patio door, the banquette boasts built-in storage and a roomy round table. A large window casts plenty of natural light.

A new range, flanked by small counters and drawers, occupies the refrigerator's former home. Nearby, a built-in furniture-style hutch blends seamlessly with the home's ambience and adds even more storage.



**ABOVE** A small open shelf below an upper cabinet is a charming detail. In addition to displaying a quartet of petite pitchers, the vignette draws the eye to the mini-brick marble backsplash and the long, dark soapstone countertop, which offers abundant cleanup and prep space.

**BELOW** Set into the soapstone counter, a deep single bowl sink features a gently curved edge that accommodates polished-chrome fixtures. The custom window above the sink mirrors original windows in the 1920s-era home.



## Small Wonders

In the Stein kitchen, small changes yielded big results.

- **Changing the back door** to swing outward instead of inward gave designer Mary Kenyon more room to expand the kitchen.
- **Wainscoting on walls in heavy-use areas** is easier to clean than a painted surface and stands up better to bumps and kicks.
- **Built-in seating at the banquette** prevents chairs from jutting into the room; storage inside the seating is perfect for less-used items.
- **Overhead shelves** in the corner of the banquette area offer display space for pretty—but bulky and hard-to-store—serving pieces.



"It was important to me to have it fit into the rest of the house stylewise," Danette says of the remodeled kitchen's architecture, footprint, and materials. "We love it—it feels comfortable and not quirky." In fact, the whole family, and their friends appreciate the added room for cooking, additional storage, and new path to the backyard living space.

Bill concurs. "We enjoy the fact that when we invite people over, they like it, they're impressed with it—that's a bonus," he says. "Not only do we get to enjoy it, but others like the look."

**RESOURCES ON PAGE 114**

**ABOVE** Opposite the banquette, a built-in hutch with furniture-style details includes a wine rack; storage for glassware, dinnerware, and serving pieces; and a marble countertop that functions as a buffet.

**TAKE IT HOME**

## Family Kitchen Made Functional

This 1920s kitchen got up-to-date style when it was remodeled. These items will help you get the same look.

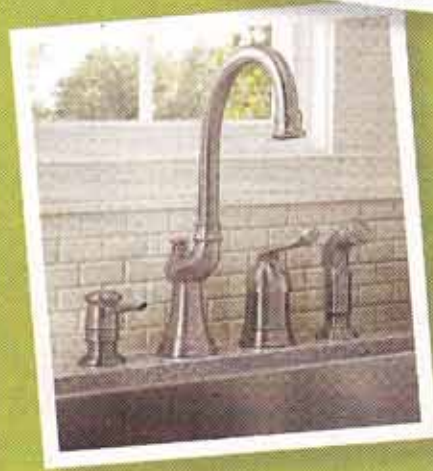


### SCHOOLHOUSE CHARM

The Tavern Suspension light (\$295) offers historical style paired with modern technology. [WilmetteLighting.com](http://WilmetteLighting.com) for retailers.

### OFF THE RACK

Turkey Hill cabinets (10x10-foot space starts at \$2,951) are one of 11 styles of Martha Stewart custom-order cabinets at The Home Depot. Hardware and countertops are also available. [homedepot.com/marthastewart](http://homedepot.com/marthastewart)



### WATER FEATURE

Muirfield single-handle high-arch kitchen faucet (\$178) by Moen adds beauty to your hardworking sink. [Lowes.com](http://Lowes.com)

**Kitchen sink** Farmhouse Sink #K654640 cast iron in white, **faucet, pot filler, bar sink** #K3339—Kohler Co.; 800/456-4537; [kohler.com](http://kohler.com). **Sisal rug**—Pottery Barn; 800/922-5507; [potterybarn.com](http://potterybarn.com) (product line varies).



## New Direction

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**Interior designer:** Ursula Beatt, Urs Beatt Design, Manhattan Beach, California.

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**Sofas** Cannes—Quatrine Washable Furniture; 800/407-5120; [quatrine.com](http://quatrine.com). **Drapery**—The Silk Trading Co.; 800/854-0396; [silktrading.com](http://silktrading.com). **Wall paint** Woodlawn Blue—Benjamin Moore; 888/236-6667; [benjaminmoore.com](http://benjaminmoore.com) [P]. **Flooring** cherry with walnut stain—Zumaya; [zumaya.com](http://zumaya.com).

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**Chairs, lighting**—Crate & Barrel; 800/967-6696; [crateandbarrel.com](http://crateandbarrel.com) (product line varies). **Drapery**—The Silk Trading Co.; 800/854-0396; [silktrading.com](http://silktrading.com). **Grass-cloth wallcovering**—Supreme Paint Decorating Centers, Redondo Beach, California; 310/540-4456; [supremepaintdec.com](http://supremepaintdec.com).

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**Cabinetry** Shaker in white, **wine storage, cabinet pulls**—The Kitchen Store; [thekitchenstore.net](http://thekitchenstore.net). **Wall paint** Classic Brown—Benjamin Moore; 888/236-6667; [benjaminmoore.com](http://benjaminmoore.com) [P]. **Chair at desk**—Crate & Barrel; 800/967-6696; [crateandbarrel.com](http://crateandbarrel.com) (product line varies). **Range, hood**—Thermador; 800/735-4328; [thermador.com](http://thermador.com). **Refrigerator, dishwasher, oven**—KitchenAid; [kitchenaid.com](http://kitchenaid.com). **Sink, faucet**—Kohler Co.; 800/456-4537; [kohler.com](http://kohler.com). **Stools**—Pier 1 Imports; 800/245-4595; [pier1.com](http://pier1.com). **Blinds**—Powell Blinds; [theblindco.com](http://theblindco.com). **Fabric for exterior curtains**—Sunbrella; [sunbrella.com](http://sunbrella.com); available through fabrics stores nationwide. **Shutters**—Home Depot USA, Inc.; [homedepot.com](http://homedepot.com) (product line varies).



## Give & Take

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**Interior designer:** Mary Kenyon, Mary Kenyon Designs, Pasadena, California; 626/795-0325; [marykenyondesign.com](http://marykenyondesign.com); e-mail: [info@marykenyondesign.com](mailto:info@marykenyondesign.com).

**Cabinetry, hutch**—MK Construction, Los Angeles; 213/923-3937. **Marble tile backsplash, basket-weave mosaic in range niche**—through Mission Tile West, South Pasadena, California; 626/799-4595; [missiontilewest.com](http://missiontilewest.com). **Sink** Smart Space, **sink fixtures**—Kohler Co.; 800/456-4537;

[kohler.com](http://kohler.com). **Refrigerator**—KitchenAid;

[kitchenaid.com](http://kitchenaid.com). **Range**—Thermador; 800/735-4328; [thermador.com](http://thermador.com).

**Dishwasher**—Bosch; 800/866-2022; [boschappliances.com](http://boschappliances.com). **Microwave oven**—

GE Appliances; 800/626-2000; [geappliances.com](http://geappliances.com). **Light fixtures**—

Restoration Hardware; 800/910-9836; [restorationhardware.com](http://restorationhardware.com). **Fabric for**

**banquette cushions**—through Calico

Corners; 800/213-6366;

[calicocorners.com](http://calicocorners.com). **Recipe file, green cruet,**

**vinegar bottle, soap dispenser, sponges,**

**green towel, asparagus steamer, white**

**pitchers and glass bowl on shelf, tureen,**

**measuring bowl, napkins**—Crate & Barrel;

800/967-6696; [crateandbarrel.com](http://crateandbarrel.com) (product

line varies).