

WINNERS!  
Best New  
Products  
2006

# HOME Remodeling & MAKEOVERS™

## Unclutter Your Home Secrets of the Pros

## Special Kitchen & Bath Issue

BEFORE & AFTERS • DESIGN TIPS • FLOOR PLANS

### 12 Organizers Under \$100

### 282 Top Renovation Ideas

### 5 Beautiful Bath Redos

8 Best Ways to  
Create Curb Appeal

03940



Woman's Day Home Ideas Series  
Volume XVII, Number 1  
U.S. \$4.50 CANADA \$4.99  
Display until April 25, 2006

# Open Outlook

An old kitchen gets a new lease on family life

WRITTEN BY JEANNIE MATTEUCCI

PHOTOGRAPHS BY RAY STRAWBRIDGE

“Efficient, attractive and functional,” that’s the way Cy and Pat Atkinson of Cary, North Carolina, describe the upgrade they were seeking when they decided to make some changes to their 243-square-foot kitchen. After living with plain builders-grade cabinets and pastel color scheme for 12 years, the room was starting to look dated.

“I never felt the space was properly laid out,” says Pat. “We had a walk-in pantry that was useless—a closet with some shelves—and a too-small island clogging the middle of the room. My nemesis was the corner cabinet next to the stove. It required me to get on my hands and knees whenever I needed to find anything.”

Instead of knocking down walls or building an addition, Cy and Pat decided to work within the space they had. To help with the project,



## Before

LEFT: White laminate cabinets, dated wallpaper and worn vinyl flooring made the kitchen drab.

## THE RENOVATION

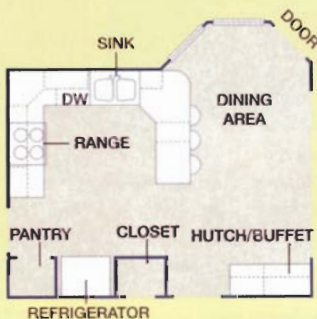
### What Was Done

- Removed an existing center island and replaced it with a peninsula
- Replaced white laminate cabinets with custom maple units
  - Built a custom cupboard in the space that once held a rarely used desk
  - Installed energy-efficient windows and improved the task and ambient lighting



### BEFORE

LEFT: The kitchen originally had minimal counter space and a small island stuck awkwardly in the middle of the room.



### AFTER

RIGHT: By eliminating the island and adding a peninsula, the new layout has a tight work triangle and a breakfast counter. A new storage hutch replaces the old desk.



The extra-deep garden window above the sink was designed to give Cy and Pat a place to grow herbs and small plants.

The new kitchen is a comfortable spot to prepare and serve meals. "The improved layout is very easy to navigate, whether you're fixing a large dinner or a quick meal," Pat says.

\$58,980



# Before & After Kitchens

**RIGHT:** Wanting to maximize every inch of space, designer Carrie Carroll included two corner lazy Susans—by the stove and the sink—that keep plastic containers and accessories close at hand.



**RIGHT:** Pat and Cy Atkinson love spending time in their new kitchen.

**“Having an appliance garage under the cabinet is a great way to keep counters clutter-free.”**

—Pat Atkinson



they turned to Carrie Carroll, a designer and administrator with Quality Design & Construction in nearby Raleigh. “My plan was to open up the room and create better flow while giving the Atkinsons enough space so they could both work in the kitchen at the same time,” says Carroll.

After the kitchen was gutted and electrical and plumbing upgrades were made, new windows and a door were added. The original location of the patio door was then moved from left to right to establish an easier traffic flow.

Exchanging the small island for a peninsula was also an important design decision. “It’s a small kitchen and just didn’t have room for a large island,” says Carroll. The peninsula, which acts as a visual break in the room, offers seating for

three as well as extra storage space. Classic detailing like beadboard and corbels add a traditional touch to the kitchen’s custom maple cabinets finished with an antique linen stain and caramel glaze. “We have a lot of light wood in our home,” says Pat. “I thought the tone would open up the kitchen more.” To balance the warmth and richness of the wood, Cy and Pat chose a forest-green solid-surface material for the perimeter counters and top of the peninsula. Other finishing touches include the backsplash areas with green glass accent tiles, chosen to pick up the color of the countertops, and an Italian tile floor placed at a diagonal to make the small kitchen seem larger.

“Our new kitchen is more than just gorgeous,” says Pat, “it’s also extremely efficient.” ■



**ABOVE:** Located in the peninsula, these pull-out drawers, designed to hold bowls and containers, provide convenient, accessible storage without having to get on your hands and knees.



**LEFT:** Built into the corner where a desk once stood, the new hutch is finished in the same colors and materials as the kitchen cabinets, yet looks like a piece of furniture. Used as a serving buffet, the hutch was custom designed to store china, napkins and flatware.

**BELOW:** A cabinet above the refrigerator has tray dividers for baking pans and cookie sheets. The adjacent pantry has five roll-out trays on the bottom and an open cabinet above with adjustable shelves for maximum storage.



## Defining Details



**Phoenix Rising**  
**LEFT:** To add a bit of light over a kitchen bar, try Thomas Lighting's Phoenix blown etched three-bulb light. \$237. 502-420-9600; [www.thomaslighting.com](http://www.thomaslighting.com).

**Stone Substitute**  
**RIGHT:** If stone tiling is not in your budget, try Domco's Vintage laminate flooring. It's the next best thing for a classic stone look at only \$1.80 to \$2.30 per square foot. [www.domco.com](http://www.domco.com).



## WHAT IT COST

Cabinets .....	\$22,990
Contractor .....	21,180
Appliances .....	5,575
Flooring .....	4,000
Countertops .....	3,500
Backsplash .....	\$835
Lighting .....	\$640
Plumbing .....	\$260
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$58,980</b>