

* *amazing budget*
re-dos

100s of ideas

Real Kitchens

2012
PREMIERE
ISSUE!

95

Problem
Kitchens
& Baths
Solved

PROS.
maximize
SMALL

COUNTRY COLLECTIBLES™ #67

DISPLAY UNTIL APRIL 2, 2012



SAVE \$\$\$\$: new materials we love
& custom looks from stock

basic LAYOUT

THE CHALLENGE

- Open and brighten dark, windowless kitchen
- Maximize storage in an unconventional, light-hearted way
- Gain work space at a table where guests also can eat and hang out

Low open --->
shelves keep items
used daily within
easy reach



onhand

Salvaged floors and a stainless table add up to cost-saving style

TOP 5 FEATURES

1. Pale wood **open shelves** above counter and beneath tall glass-fronted cabinets
2. **Concealed** electrical plugs and light switches
3. So much **natural light** that overhead and undercabinet lights are rarely used
4. **Novel palette** of pale green, gray and wood tones
5. Big **steel table** that works as an island as well as an eating area



For 2½ years, Christian Dauer and his wife, Catherine, made do with slabs of wood stretched across sawhorses to act as counters and a table in their kitchen while they worked on other rooms in their 1894 home. “We ripped out the dark, dreary kitchen two days after we moved in but couldn’t afford to make the changes we wanted,” he says. The wait gave them time to imagine the right layout, cabinets and appliances. The new space is filled with an easy-care, cheerful spirit that comes in part from its open wood shelves; glass-fronted cabinets; and streams of natural light from a new rear window, a skylight and a French-style pocket door. Pale green painted cabinets, custom-made to maximize storage, help integrate the room with the rest of the house. A deeper gray hue for the Pietra Cardosa stone countertops adds a sharp contrast. To save money, Dauer did without a microwave, found an affordable raised stainless-steel table that works as prep surface and eating counter, and salvaged the room’s original Douglas fir floorboards.

THE BASICS: ARCHITECT: Christian Dauer, ChrDAUER Architects, San Francisco, CA, 415-431-5518, chrdauer.com CABINETRY: Custom MDO and maple plywood, painted pale green COUNTERTOPS: Pietra Cardosa stone REFRIGERATOR-FREEZER: Amana SINK: Blanco WALL OVEN: Thermador COOKTOP: Wolf ISLAND: IKEA table HOOD: Best by Broan DISHWASHER: Bosch LIGHT: FLOS “Black and White”

Photography by Bruce Damonte Photography

THE CHALLENGE ● Update a kitchen in a 1906 home for better light, views and privacy

- Set aside a big central area for eating, food prep and homework
- Introduce a playful feel with interesting accents and colors

Combine picture --->
and awning-style
windows, but vary
placement for views
and ventilation

TOP 5 FEATURES

1. **Generous** cooking and prep space on the perimeter and at the table
2. **Easy access** to storage, both closed and open
3. Increased **natural light** through big north- and west-facing windows plus a central skylight
4. **Cheerful palette** with yellow glass-tiled backsplash, white and gray paint, and colorful chairs
5. Restored **1940s Magic Chef** range



Victorian is made modern with a seamless weaving of old and new

The sunny yellow, glass-tiled backsplash, big window expanses and skylight give no hint that this San Francisco house dates from just after the 1906 earthquake. “It was dark, like many Victorians can be,” says architect Christian Dauer. “They asked me to modernize what wasn’t in good shape and weave the new with the original parts we could save so they’d be compatible.” Dauer made natural light a key ingredient and added the playful yellow backsplash. He designed a 6’-long table of Douglas fir and redwood timbers salvaged during the remodeling. On each of the room’s legs, Dauer positioned a major piece of equipment, including a restored 1940s Magic Chef range.

THE BASICS: **ARCHITECT:** Christian Dauer, ChrDAUER Architects, San Francisco, CA, 415-431-5518, chrdauer.com **RANGE:** Restored 1940s Magic Chef gas range **HOOD:** Best by Broan **REFRIGERATOR-FREEZER:** Liebherr **CABINETRY:** Custom, made locally from maple plywood and painted Benjamin Moore “Cement Gray” **TABLE:** Luke Bartels Furniture, San Francisco, 415-240-5504 **COUNTERTOP:** Absolute Black granite **BACKSPLASH:** Yellow 1” x 2” glass tiles in “Corn”, Global Tile Design, San Francisco **LIGHTS:** DWR Drop 1 and Drop 2 pendants **DISHWASHER:** Bosch **FLOORBOARDS:** Vertical grain Douglas fir

Photography by Bruce Damonte Photography

RETRO COOL



THE CHALLENGE ● Visually divide the kitchen from the family room onto which it opens

● Increase counter space and make it easily accessible to children as well as adults

● Use basic, everyday materials to create an unconventional look

TOP 5 FEATURES

1. Banquette that has a built-in nook for shoe storage
2. Kid-friendly surfaces, so children feel comfortable helping out
3. Glass-fronted cabinetry to hold dishes and bowls
4. Suspended shelving that visually separates kitchen from family room
5. Green and wood palette to play up the yard just outside the window as well as the eco-friendly design



San Francisco architect Christian Dauer delights in taking everyday materials and using them in novel ways. In this kitchen remodel, Dauer mixed wood, paper, glass, tile and metal in a clean, earthy design. Cabinets were constructed from basic MDF and painted green to tie into the garden out back; countertops are pressed paper and a resin product known as Richlite; and a suspended island shelf designed by Dauer combines Douglas fir, glass and black metal supports. To maximize storage, Dauer built a floor-to-ceiling pantry that cleverly divides eating and cooking areas.

THE BASICS: ARCHITECT: Christian Dauer, ChrDAUER Architects, San Francisco, CA, 415-431-5518, chrdauer.com CABINETRY: Formaldehyde-free painted MDF COUNTERTOPS: Richlite "Black Diamond" FSC-rated pressed paper with resin REFRIGERATOR-FREEZER: KitchenAid RANGE, HOOD: Wolf SINKS: Julien, J7 collection FAUCETS: Main, Dornbracht, Elia; prep, Grohe, Alira BACKSPLASH: Trikeenan, Lily White, "Modulus"; amber glass accent tile, Tessera Tile & Stone Photography by Bruce Damonte Photography

nature
INSPIRED

Sustainable design conserves resources—and costs

challenge: **SMALL**



PHOTO: DANA MELIJON

small WONDERS

Squeeze maximum function from a minimal footprint

challenge: **small**



PHOTO: SAARI FORRAI

PHOTO: BRUCE DAMONE PHOTOGRAPHY



←--- Lower a ceiling
to hide ugly
mechanicals

Challenge #1: MAKE A NARROW KITCHEN LOOK WIDER

What do you do when you've got a narrow kitchen that you want to look more spacious—while also showing off its equipment and furnishings? Designer and homeowner Christopher Coleman, ccinteriordesign.com, came up with a novel solution in the form of a main back wall outfitted with Missoni-inspired rows of black and primary hues that make the room look wider. To keep costs down, he used heavy vinyl wallpaper that mimics pricey tiles. Then, he found a tiny table, which he grouped with compact, colorful chairs that pick up the bright hues in the paper. Black carpeting and cabinetry as well as stainless-steel counters and accents act as neutrals to let the rainbow of hues take center stage.

Challenge #2: USE AWKWARD SPACE BESIDE AN ENTRYWAY

Entries can be grand and inviting, but they also can waste space if not used efficiently. Architect Christian Dauer of ChrDAUER Architects, chrdauer.com, in San Francisco decided to turn this entry into a work area, with a tiny floating counter that can be used as a desk or even a small eating area; a compact stool can be pushed under and out of the way. Cabinets—both open and closed—above the counter can be used for storage and display. He also recessed a refrigerator into the corner area and built to-the-ceiling storage above. A long cabinet works as a pantry. The curved ends of the desk and open shelving reduce the chance for bumps and bruises, while a curved bracket adds a fanciful flourish.

Challenge #3: HIDE UGLY KITCHEN MECHANICALS

When remaking this space, architect Tim Bjella of Bjella Architecture, bjella.com, faced a big obstacle: The ceiling housed unattractive but necessary mechanicals that would need to be camouflaged. Because there was enough existing height in the room, he was able to turn the ceiling into an eye-catching feature by designing a crisscross of beams that accommodates both integrated and suspended lighting. But that was only the start of the geometric aesthetic. Cabinets were placed in vertical and horizontal blocks, in different colors, to create a grid-like effect that unifies the design aesthetic. Bold shades of purple and tan, and a black countertop and trim punch up the otherwise neutral palette.