



before



remarkable remodel

WRITTEN BY
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Brown shag carpet crept around the edges of the kitchen. Low slung cabinetry blocked the view and compartmentalized the space, cutting it off from the rest of the house. The vinyl flooring was ancient, and fluorescent lights overhead were unflattering.

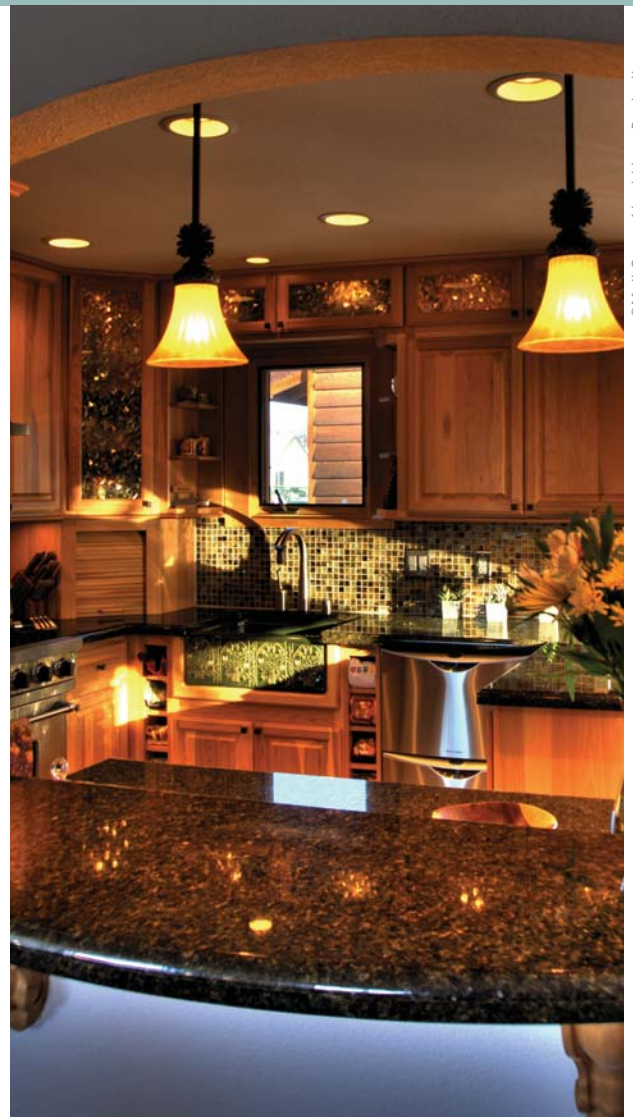
“The appliances were also old and needed to be replaced,” recalls homeowner Bart McRorie. “So I asked Trailboss designer Amy Moore for her input, and as we began to exchange ideas she suggested not just cosmetic updates but structural changes. Then the creative juices started flowing.”

As Scott Allen, General Manager at Trailboss, describes, “Bart came to us with a problem he wanted to solve, and that is what we are really good at doing.”

Among other changes, Allen eliminated soffits in the ceiling and then cut out a section of wall to let in more natural light and open up the view.

“To create a smooth transition into the rest of the home we matched the chandeliers in the dining room and sitting room, updated the paint and fixtures in the hallway, and changed out the flooring and fixtures in the entryway and dining room,” explains Allen. The whole project took about 3-4 months, from start to finish.

“I haven’t been entertaining much but now I definitely plan to,” says McRorie. “They completely changed the feel of the room and made it much friendlier. Now I just walk into the kitchen and can’t help but smile.”



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after

The new kitchen has a Viking range with stainless trim, a Fisher & Paykel dishwasher, and a GE integrated refrigerator. A special order custom Koehler farm style sink – with an embossed decorative front – sets the tone of the kitchen, and the faucet not only turns on and off automatically but also incorporates computerized smart technology features.


“The cabinets are hickory, and they lend a more rustic flavor that still blends with a contemporary look,” says Moore. Corbels under counters and decorative cabinet glass add stylish touches, and a Monogram wine storage unit is conveniently located on the dining room side of the kitchen.

“The floors are multi-colored natural

slate,” McRorie adds. “Each piece is unique and some even have bits of organic pyrite or fools’ gold embedded in them. When the light reflects off the pyrite it flashes and winks at you.”

Rather than remodeling in a piecemeal fashion, McRorie suggests consolidating tasks. “Sometimes it is cheaper in the long run to do things all at once at the optimum time, rather than in phases,” he says.

He also recommends spending as much time as possible planning, while browsing through design showrooms.

“Planning makes choices easier,” he says, “and guarantees you get what you want based on your personal preferences and the best products available at the time.” 

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