

KITCHEN

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Feminine charm

This pretty kitchen presents a delicate, ordered aesthetic to the living spaces

Perhaps the most important aspect of a kitchen design is how well it responds to the owner's personal tastes. Function can't be overlooked, but with modern cabinet technology the practical side of things can be largely tucked behind doors and into drawers – leaving only the best on show.

This comprehensive kitchen remodel by designer Kit Irvine Odom, together with Royce Flournoy, Texas Construction Company, involved a major rethink of what had gone before. The original kitchen was small and closed off, says Odom.

"We tore down walls and took over a laundry space to make room for the new design and to open up the kitchen to the living spaces," says Odom. "The owner, a mother of three, wanted the kitchen to have a furniture-like appeal when viewed from the adjacent rooms – with a distinctly feminine sensibility."

A custom range hood takes center stage, with copper verdigris providing a vibrant counterpoint to the Burnished Eggshell wall cabinets. The pelmet has a delicate bow-like motif and this style of

traditional ornamentation is continued with intricate carvings on two vertical panels either side of the range and on the island cabinetry.

"The ornate tile backsplash was custom created for the project by a local artisan," says Odom. "Two seeded glass cabinet doors add to the classic feel and offer charming display niches."

The mouldings, carvings and demure tones all contribute to the sense of a living space rather than a workspace and tie in with similar trims elsewhere in the home.



In addition, the island is finished in a light green, to emphasize it as a separate piece of furniture within the space.

Existing floor tiles were replaced with white oak stained in Red Mahogany, which again ties in with adjoining spaces.

“Despite its graceful appearance, the kitchen works hard for the owner,” says Odom. “Most appliances are hidden from sight but close to hand – integrated behind the classic, detailed panels.”

The cabinets are equally well placed, with decorated panels on either side of

the five-burner range concealing pull-out shelves designed to hold cooking oils. The original kitchen included a walk-in pantry, so part of the agenda for the new space was plenty of dedicated storage.

“With meals to prepare and children to monitor, the owner also requested ample counter space,” says Odom. “This was achieved with an elongated perimeter counter and an island work surface that extends beyond its base.

“The overhang offers a great breakfast space – and a handy place for homework.”

Above left: This kitchen by designer Kit Irvine Odom seamlessly integrates a wealth of modern functionality into a classic, artisanal aesthetic. The oven beneath the ornate range hood combines five burners and a griddle, with a pot filler set into the hand-worked splashback.

Above: With the cooktop behind the island and the wine refrigerator tucked between two tall Armoires, few appliances are prominent. The light-toned cabinetry is finished in similar hue to the walls, further merging the kitchen with the greater interior. Lighting is recessed in the ceiling or concealed above and below perimeter cabinets.

