

A Small But Mighty Kitchen | Residential Kitchen \$60,001 - \$100,000

THE CHALLENGE

The homeowners were beyond frustrated with the small kitchen in their 1926 1½-story Dutch Colonial home.

They were suffering from very little counter space and scarce storage. A low window created a dead zone. At one end, the refrigerator blocked the path from the back entry to dining room. Aesthetically, it was dark, old, and outdated.

THE SOLUTION

To create a more functional and enjoyable kitchen, we needed to be innovative and smart. Three important decisions contributed to the success of this project:

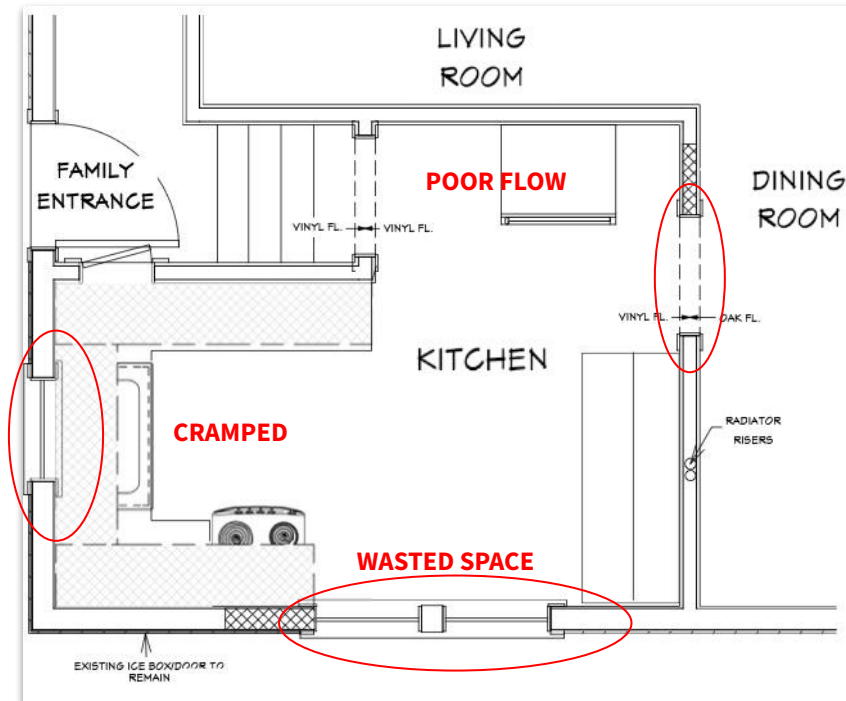
1. Remove the west window.
2. Reconfigure the south window.
3. Move the doorway to the dining room and extend the east wall.



NARI MN 2022 COTY AWARDS, CATEGORY 3

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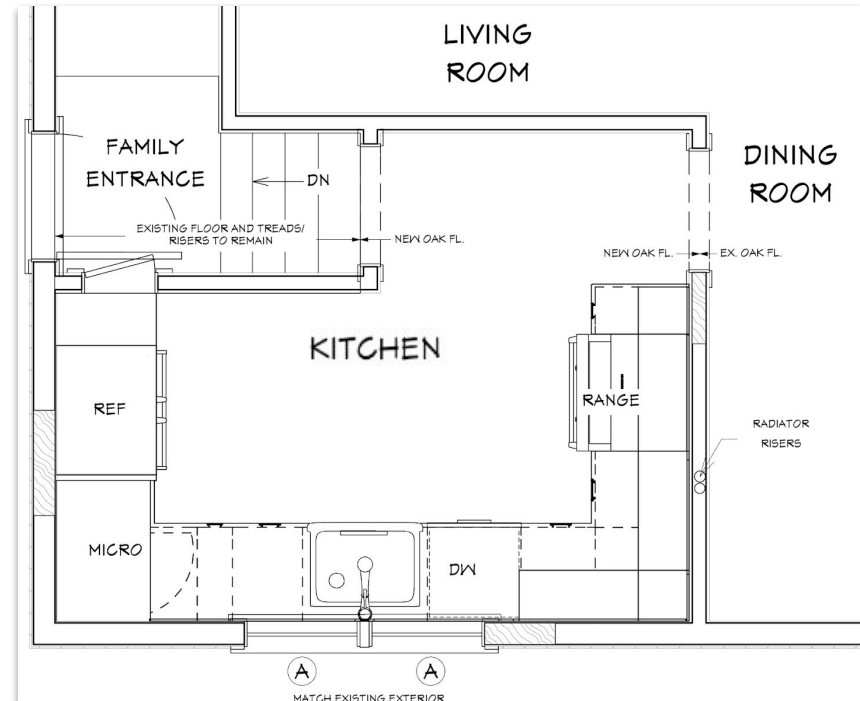
U-shaped design makes room for two, increases storage and functionality.



CRAMPED, WASTED SPACE, POOR FLOW



Circled in red are the three key areas of focus. From left to right: remove the window on the west wall, reconfigure the low window on the south wall, and move the doorway on the east wall.



COMFORTABLE & EFFICIENT

The new layout hugs three walls. The sink and appliances were relocated, and new cabinets and countertops were installed. There's plenty of elbow room now for cooking and cleaning up.

CHALLENGES TO OVERCOME

A bright, efficient, and beautiful space for daily kitchen tasks.

FUNCTIONAL LAYOUT

An improved layout with easier access makes daily tasks more enjoyable.

PLENTY OF COUNTER SPACE

Classic IVORY QUARTZ COUNTERTOPS provide ample space for prepping, cooking, and cleaning.

PRACTICAL STORAGE

Every inch is maximized with custom RED OAK CABINETRY.

UPGRADED APPLIANCES

To save the homeowners time and money, we ADDED A DISHWASHER.

The new plan includes a LARGER REFRIGERATOR with double doors up top. No more bending over to dig for produce!



BRIGHT AND FUNCTIONAL

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Storage and Privacy on the West Wall



BEFORE

GOODBYE WINDOW, HELLO STORAGE!

We removed the west window and relocated the kitchen sink. This provided space for the refrigerator and more efficient storage. The view of the house next door won't be missed.



AFTER

REMOVING WINDOW #1

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Eliminating Dead Space on the South Wall



FROM WASTED TO WONDERFUL

In an already small kitchen, eliminating wasted space was a priority. Changing the size, position, and proportion of the south window created space for cabinets, a dishwasher, and a large sink. Not to mention a view of the yard and plenty of natural light.

MODIFYING WINDOW #2

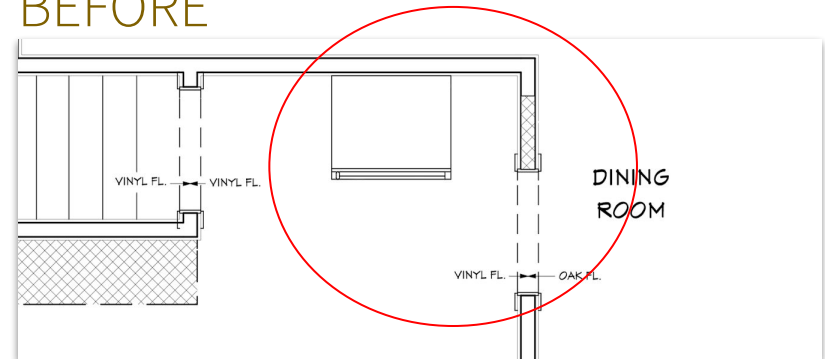
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Reframing the doorway created a safer path and better flow of traffic.

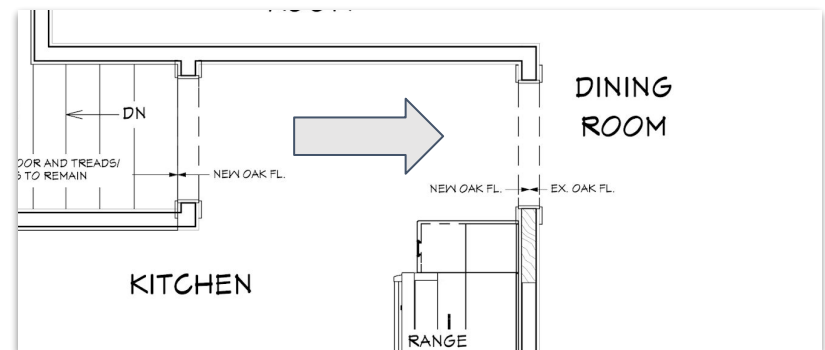


The refrigerator was parked between the back door and the entrance to the dining room. We reframed the doorway to create better flow (and moved the fridge out of the way).

BEFORE



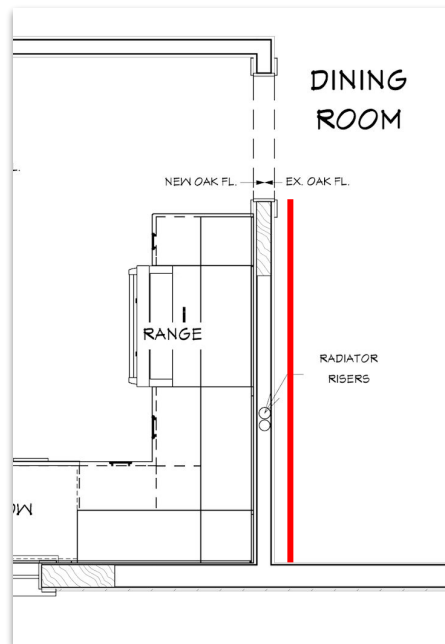
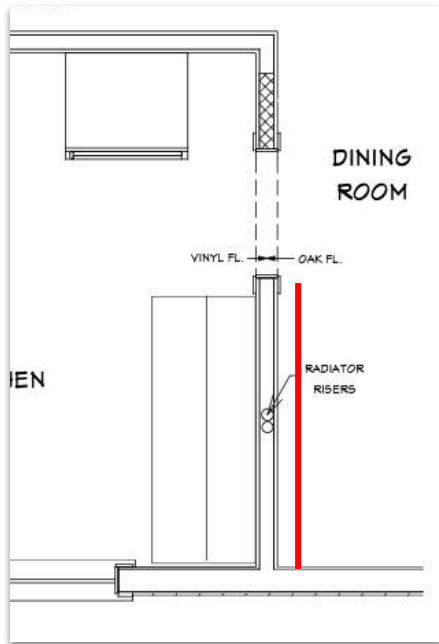
AFTER



BETTER FLOW & SAFETY

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Reframing the doorway allowed for more cabinets, a range, and counter space.



**THE EAST WALL IS 2 FEET,
3 INCHES LONGER**

Every inch matters. On the longer east wall, there's an Induction Range with workable counter space to the left and right.



EXPANDING STORAGE AND COUNTERSPACE

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Hardwood in the kitchen matches original oak on the main floor.

HARDWOOD FLOORS

The old vinyl flooring was replaced with a durable and dependable 1.5-inch OAK HARDWOOD. Matching the original wood floors in the living and dining room makes the home feel more spacious.



Hidden details make a difference.

UNDER CABINET LIGHTING

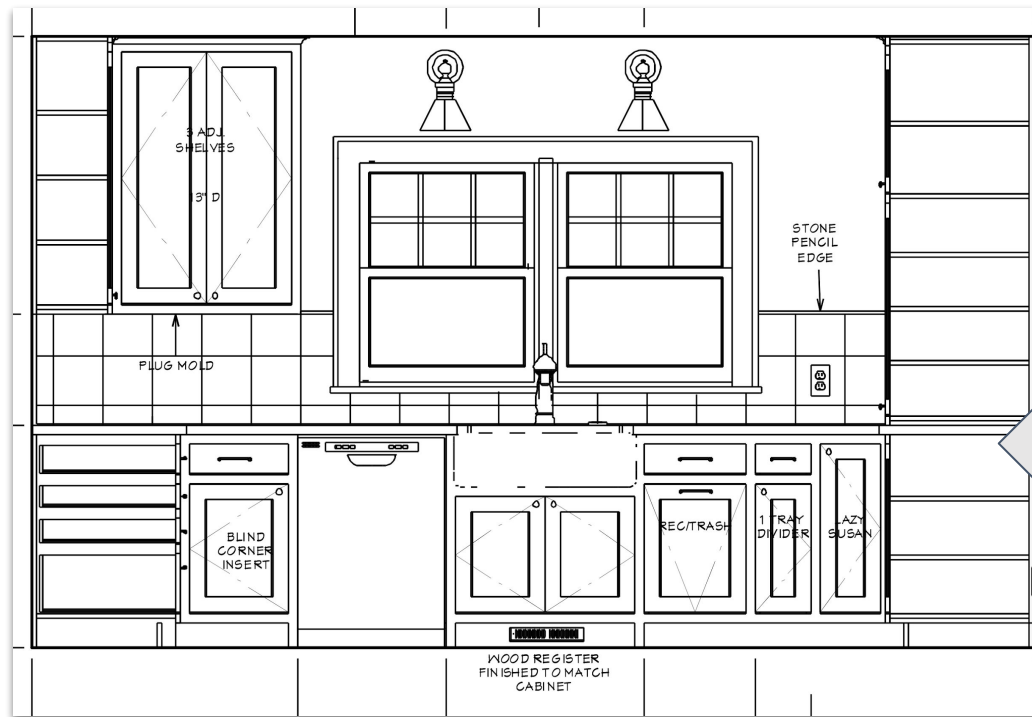
LED lighting with dimmers add extra light.

PLUG MOLDS

Hiding those not-so-pretty but useful features of the kitchen is a subtle design detail.

BLIND CORNER INSERT

Equipment stored in the blind corner is easy to reach.



A PURPOSE BEHIND EVERY DOOR

Here are a few examples of how the cabinetry was customized. From the left to right: the trash/recycling, a tray divider, and a Lazy Susan.

WOOD REGISTER BLENDS IN

To create a more comfortable space, we installed toe-kick heat. The wood register was trimmed and finished to match the cabinetry.

HIDDEN DETAILS

Abundance of highly-efficient storage. Cabinetry selections put tight spaces and corners to good use.



CUSTOM STORAGE OPTIONS

Throughout the kitchen there are pockets of pull-out storage that maximize the cabinet space. Everything found in this kitchen has a logical designated space. Bonus, no more cluttered countertops!



SPACE-SAVING POCKET DOORS

The cabinet doors to the left of the refrigerator are POCKET DOORS. Electrical outlets for the microwave and toaster are tucked to the back.



SLEEK STYLE

Hide appliances when not in use. When closed, the look is simple and uncluttered.

FUNCTIONAL & SLEEK STORAGE

Durable materials, excellent construction. Trimmed and stained to match existing details of the home.



WOOD IS WONDERFUL

The red oak cabinets are CUSTOM-MADE – the door frames and panels, as well as the drawers, fronts, and pullouts. The solid hardwood with DOVETAIL CONSTRUCTION ensures that the drawers won't come apart with everyday use. They were designed to match the trim and built-ins found elsewhere in the home.

CRAFTED DETAILS

FURNITURE LEGS are used at the base of the cabinets and give a decorative touch.

CRAFTSMANSHIP & AESTHETICS

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An enjoyable workstation that's spacious and beautiful.

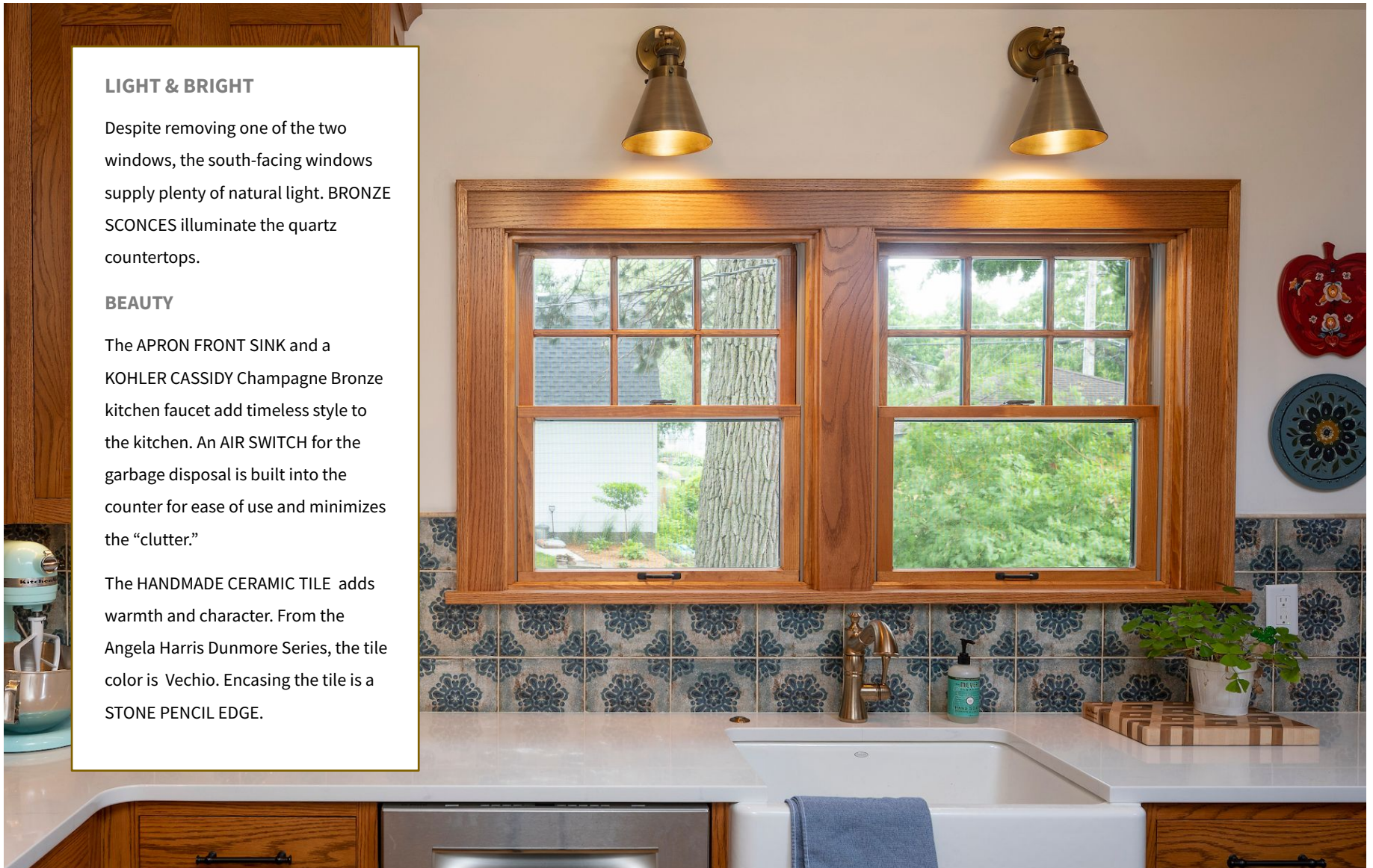
LIGHT & BRIGHT

Despite removing one of the two windows, the south-facing windows supply plenty of natural light. BRONZE SCONCES illuminate the quartz countertops.

BEAUTY

The APRON FRONT SINK and a KOHLER CASSIDY Champagne Bronze kitchen faucet add timeless style to the kitchen. An AIR SWITCH for the garbage disposal is built into the counter for ease of use and minimizes the "clutter."

The HANDMADE CERAMIC TILE adds warmth and character. From the Angela Harris Dunmore Series, the tile color is Vechio. Encasing the tile is a STONE PENCIL EDGE.



AESTHETICS

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