

# NARI MINNESOTA – 2022 COTY AWARDS

## PROJECT: EMPTY NEST

### CATEGORY: RESIDENTIAL KITCHEN \$60,001 – \$100,000

The goal was to create an open concept and an updated kitchen/entertaining space that is functional for an empty nest couple that love to cook together. To obtain this layout, a non-load bearing wall was demolished between the kitchen and living room. A large island replaced a standard table. Built in hutch/pantry storage replaced a traditional China hutch. Dated sheet vinyl and carpeting were replaced with LVP in the entire space to create a cohesive look throughout.

The original footprint was rearranged to create a better workflow and maximize storage. We replaced piecemeal storage added over the years. Cabinet height was extended for maximum use of space. Maximizing storage and creating room for 2 cooks in the kitchen were top priorities. Combining blue painted cabinets with grey stained hickory cabinets offers visual interest contrary to the all-white kitchen of current trends.

The mix of modern and transitional materials, finishes, and fixtures result in the perfect blend (marriage) of both their American and English cultures. Some hidden treasures include a floor to ceiling spice cabinet, a lift for the Kitchen Aid mixer, and extra storage for their collection of serving vessels under the island. A second prep sink was also added in addition to a commercial range, and pot filler. This space is everything they envisioned and more.

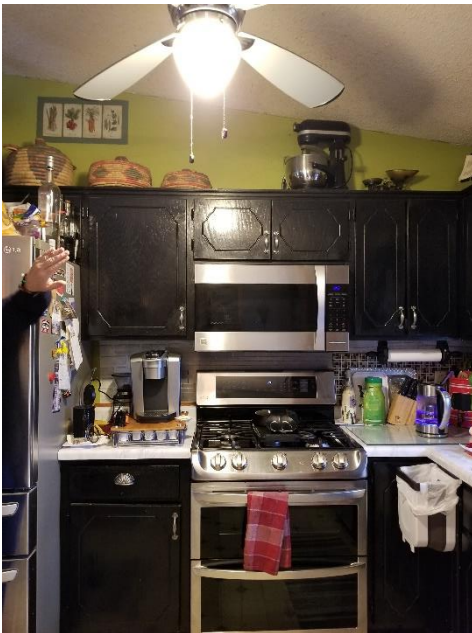


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## BEFORE PHOTOS









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## BEFORE & AFTER





## FUNCTIONALITY

- Open floor plan achieved by removing wall
- Large island replaced traditional table offering seating and storage
- Built in pantry/buffet area replaced traditional China hutch
- Smart storage solutions such as spice storage, mixer lift, pull out trays, and hidden double waste basket
- Secondary prep sink and ample room for two cooks in the kitchen
- Large commercial range, hood, and pot filler
- Low maintenance/food safe quartz countertops
- Low maintenance durable vinyl plank floor throughout

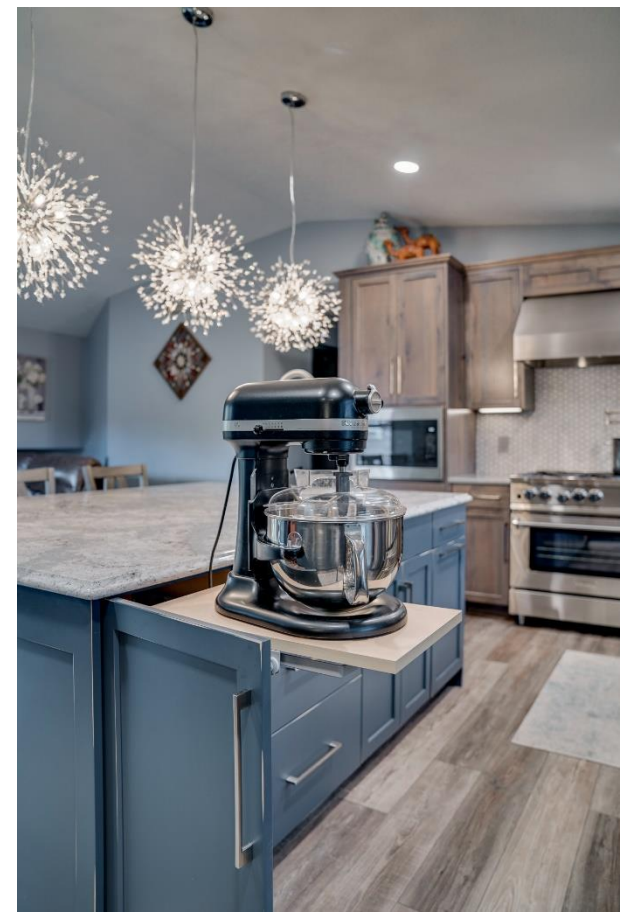




## **INNOVATIVE SOLUTIONS/CRAFTSMANSHIP**

- Custom stained hickory and painted maple cabinetry
- Low maintenance quartz countertops throughout
- Hidden floor to ceiling spice rack
- Hidden lift for the Kitchen Aid mixer
- LED lighting throughout including under cabinet lighting

## **AESTHETICS**





- Combination of grey stained hickory and blue painted maple custom cabinets
- Combination of Cambria quartz on the island as a “show piece” and a neutral Hanstone countertop on the perimeter.
- Neutral hexagon backsplash tile
- Stainless steel appliances and fixtures
- Gorgeous firework lights over the island





## **PROJECT CHALLENGES & CHALLENGES PHOTOS**

Remodeling projects always involve a challenge or two. The biggest challenge was combining their two different styles. His more modern American aesthetic and her traditional English aesthetic. The couple recently replaced their windows, meaning, windows and casing were to remain unchanged. Due to budget restrictions a wall mount gas fireplace originally meant to be incorporated was eliminated.

The existing over the range microwave was not vented to the outside which meant HVAC work to duct the new commercial hood. We could not go out the side wall due to exterior soffit placement. We had to go up through the attic and out the roof.

We had side by side air returns in the existing wall being removed. We had to position the island so the returns would be located in the toe kick of the island cabinets. This would eliminate the necessity of opening the floor or ceiling below and re-doing the ducting.

