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2008
**Kitchen
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13 before-and-improved kitchen and bath projects from Atlanta remodelers

investments

contractors

materials

Photo courtesy of Atlanta Design & Build

extreme **MAKEOVERS**

by Carrie Whitney and Leslie Williams-Johnson



Project:
Give a dark, dated kitchen a
modern, welcoming look

When you walk into a kitchen, you want to feel like you've stepped into a warm, inviting space. In this project, we transformed a dark, dated kitchen into a modern, welcoming look. The key was to brighten the space with light-colored cabinets and a fresh coat of paint. We also updated the countertops and added a modern island with a black stool. The result is a bright, airy kitchen that's perfect for entertaining and everyday use.

before

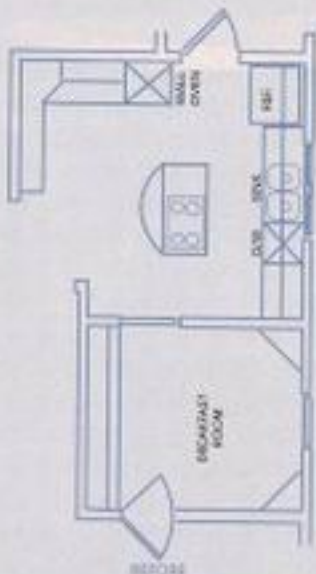
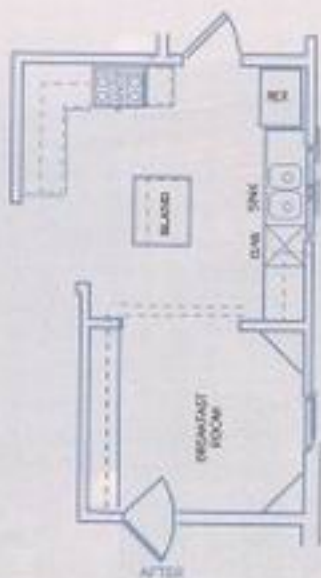


Kitchen

Approximately \$66,000 investment

Small Carpenters at Large contractor

materials



Cabinets: Masterpiece, Townley Arch
Countertops: SileStone Brazilian Brown
Gas Range: KitchenAid Architect Series II
Dishwasher: Bosch Evolution 500 Series
Vent Hood: Vent-A-Hood Emerald
Sink: Rohl Allia
Faucet: Grohe Alira

From an extremely dated kitchen with appliances that were too old to find available parts for repairs, Henry and Ellen Slack's kitchen has become a bright, welcoming room with plenty of counter and storage space. The previous kitchen had been installed in the '70s, and with dark cabinetry, wallpaper and lack of lighting, it was very gloomy and unwelcoming.

Small Carpenters at Large widened the opening between the kitchen and breakfast room and created an arched opening. All of the wall cabinets were extended to the ceiling to maximize storage space, and the dark wood was replaced by lighter stained cabinets. The walls were brightened with a light green color. "It's a pretty place to be in now, and it lifts my spirits when I come in," Ellen says. Small Carpenters installed a range with useful counter space on either side, and the island became a comfortable place to sit.

The Slacks got a surprise when the dated vinyl floors were removed. "We had hardwood floors under the ancient vinyl," Ellen says. "That was a wonderful treasure that we found during the process." The overall result of the renovation was a transformation from a dark, inefficient space to a bright, updated kitchen that offers plenty of conveniences. ○



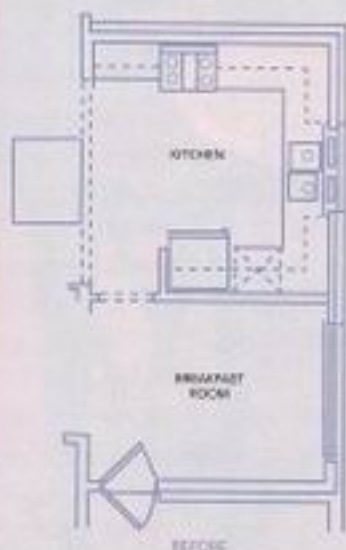
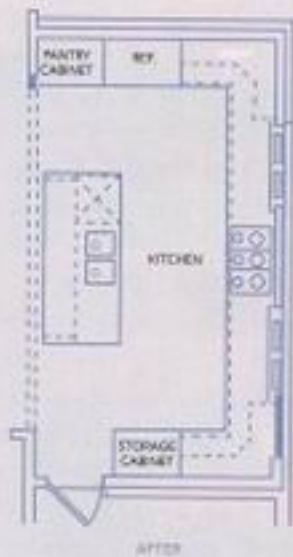


Project:
Create a larger, more modern
kitchen for a growing family



before





Kitchen

Approximately \$85,000 investment

Small Carpenters at Large contractor

materials

Cabinets: Lockwood Custom Furniture
Countertops: Walker and Associates granite, "Manassa" and "Sierra Brown"

Oven: Dacor Dual-Fuel Range

Dishwasher: KitchenAid Superba

Refrigerator: KitchenAid Architect Series

Vent Hood: Modern-Aire

Sink: Elkay Lustertone

Faucet: Delta Saxony

Backsplash: Hacienda/Landmark hand-glazed tile

Jim and Michele Reiner's love of Italy guided the design of their new kitchen. While creating a livable, usable and efficient space, they sought to have the kitchen reflect an Old Italian style. At the same time, they wanted to open up the cramped kitchen and small breakfast room to make one larger space that would make a comfortable gathering area for their growing family.

The Reiners wanted to achieve a rustic, warm look, so custom cabinetry with wonderful detailing and a warm glaze was installed. The Italian style is most evident in the large center island and copper vent hood. "Their look and feel were inspired by small pieces of art I collected during trips to Italy, and they, in turn, make me feel that instead of just cooking, I am working on a craft," Michele says. The intent with the island was to treat it like an individual piece of furniture, so to differentiate it from the perimeter cabinetry, a different countertop and cabinet materials were used. The island was carved from knotty pine and stained to resemble a rustic piece of furniture. The vent hood was trimmed in wood stained to match the island, allowing these two focal points to mesh perfectly.

The end result is a truly custom kitchen. "Our favorite part of the kitchen is the openness and space that we now have to cook, eat and enjoy friends and family," Michele says.

