

Keeping the floor plan and making it family friendly converts space into a “dream kitchen”

Story by Douglas Sandhage



Many kitchen redos become much more than the homeowner bargains for: in cost, in time, and frustration because structural changes often are necessary to achieve the desired goal. Good planning with a remodeler, designer and/or architect can minimize the potential problems and sometimes the existing floor plan may only need minor tweaks.

This is one of those stories to prove it so.

Dana Snyder, with Designs on Madison, served as the kitchen designer on this six-month project in Anderson Township. The home was built in 1990. “We only needed to move a few things, and didn’t have to take out any major walls, windows or doors.” But the rest, she added, was a complete overhaul: “A blank slate. We didn’t reuse anything but the floor and the walls.”

The homeowner agreed with the plan and because she and her husband have three young children, this presented an opportunity to make sure the kitchen was safe, while still being functional, and that the outdated appliances could be replaced and rearranged. One safety feature included removing the cooktop from the center island — where the kids often eat and do homework — and placing it instead in one of the peripheral countertops.

“I love to cook and we love to entertain,” says the homeowner. “That meant it really had to be very functional. And I wanted a clean, modern look that went with the rest of our decor, one that is comfortable to meet our style, our taste.”

As with many kitchen remodels, the first meeting between the homeowner and the designer involved looking at magazine photos of what the homeowner liked. But then everything changed when the homeowner visited a Homearama home in 2016 designed by Designs on Madison. “I walked into the (Homearama) house, and said, ‘when we redo our house, this is my design inspiration right here.’”

Dana said the homeowner was particularly concerned that the countertops, the backsplashes and the custom ventilation hood be “visually pleasing. They were very important to her. She knows what she likes.”

The countertops, including the island, are made of soapstone — a surface that because of its talc content gives it a soft, smooth feel, and the ventilation hood was custom designed and made by Cincinnati-based MetalCraft, a custom metal fabrication shop. “We (the homeowner and Martin, a designer at MetalCraft) sat at a computer. He had some samples, I had a picture,” says the homeowner.

She adds that the hood stands “as our unique design feature,” against what continues to be trendy in kitchen design: all white.

And while subway-styled backsplash tiles are also very trendy, with a look the homeowner desired, she still wanted something a bit different — “a subtle, but elegant look” — so chose natural marble as the material.

Dana notes that the island needed to be substantial in size, yet still look proportionate to the room. “We originally had it planned for seating on just one side, but added another chair at the end.”

FANTASTIC KITCHENS

ANDERSON
TOWNSHIP

In summary, Dana says the homeowner's goals were "accomplished. It went very smooth," adding that the experience was enhanced by an open communications among all parties.


The homeowner asked that a mention be made regarding the service she received from Custom Distributors. Custom supplied the appliances for her project and serves as a Tisdell Distributing authorized dealer. "Kathy Damm from Custom did a great job showing me features I didn't know about otherwise. They really want to make sure buyers know how to use every feature to its fullest," she says. Kathy is a product expert for Custom and its vvv vv corporate chef, helping to answer questions about how to best use its featured appliances for cooking and refrigeration. She has been with Custom for more than a decade.

The homeowner's new kitchen is now "the place to congregate," she says. "Not only friends, but the kids when they get home from school to have a snack, to eat their breakfast. I am very pleased. I am cooking in my dream kitchen."

TISDELL
DISTRIBUTING

Visit Tisdell Distributing in Mason, where our more than 160 Sub-Zero and Wolf appliances make for the finest manufacturer showroom in the Midwest.
Call for an appointment today.

7177 Central Parke Blvd. ■ Mason, Ohio 45040
513-339-0990 ■ 800-426-8589

Visit us on the web at www.TisdellDistributing.com
Friend us on Facebook 



SHOWROOM

WHO DID IT?

Kitchen Design: Designs on Madison. www.designsonmadison.com. Tel. 513-321-0545 **General Contractor:** Allen & Frey Builders **Cabinetry:** Shiloh Cabinetry, flat panel with beaded inset, arctic color with slate glaze **Countertops & Island:** Soapstone, purchased from Stone Statements **Backsplash:** Natural marble and glazed porcelain, purchased from Ohio Tile & Marble **Sinks/Faucets & Farmhouse Apron Sink:** Purchased from Keidel Supply **Lighting:** Visual Comforts, purchased from Designs on Madison **Appliances:** Sub-Zero 48" built-in, side-by-side refrigerator; Wolf 36" gas rangetop; Wolf 30" E Series double wall oven; Wolf 24" microwave. Purchased from Custom Distributors, Inc. **Ventilation Hood:** Custom designed and hand-made by MetalCraft, Cincinnati