

FEBRUARY/MARCH 2022

House Beautiful

INCREDIBLE RENOVATIONS

Ideas,
Advice +
Inspiration
FOR PROJECTS BIG
AND SMALL

AN ABANDONED
CHURCH P. 58

A FORMER
TEXTILE MILL P. 92

AN 18TH-CENTURY
COTTAGE P. 74
AND SO MUCH MORE!

▲
GUESS WHICH
HGTV STAR
TOOK THIS ATLANTA
LOFT TO THE NEXT
LEVEL...
P. 10

PERIMETER PENDANTS
Over-island placement would have drawn attention to the off-center range.

PLANK CEILING
Extending this down two walls helped “avoid a vast bank of drywall and add visual interest,” says Giese.

STAINED WOOD
To connect the painted and light wood cabinetry, a charcoal stain darkens the oak island.

White paint: Chantilly Lace, Benjamin Moore. **Cabinetry:** Unique Kitchens and Baths, in custom paint (green), stain (charcoal), and limed wax (wood). **Hardware:** Rejuvenation. **Pendants:** Olde Brick Lighting. **Range:** Lacanche. **Countertop:** Calacatta quartzite. **Stools:** Four Hands. **Wine cooler:** Sub-Zero.

The Good Place

Big windows, a new layout, and three different cabinet colors give this kitchen a heavenly glow.
By Shoko Wanger

T ALL STARTED WITH the stove. Alison Giese’s Arlington, Virginia, clients selected their kitchen’s centerpiece—a Lacanche range in a deep, dusky gray—before hiring the designer to oversee a top-to-bottom overhaul of the ’90s-era space. “**Their take was, ‘We know this is going to be an investment. We want to do things right the first time,’**” Giese recalls. “They were willing to do high-end appliances to get the kitchen they wanted.”

Giese went on to curate a sumptuous material palette to match the handcrafted French range: brass hardware, bespoke oak cabinetry, stone countertops. But before any of this could be actualized, the floor plan needed fixing. “The working area was all crammed into one side of the space, and they really didn’t know what to do with the other half,” Giese explains. So she came up with three distinct zones to place along the room’s perimeter, doubling the functionality without compromising flow. Custom cabinetry in three tones, designed by Tanya Smith-

KITCHEN OF THE MONTH



ARCHES SPICE UP SHAKER CABINETRY.

Fridge: Sub-Zero.
Stools: Four Hands.

Shiflett of Unique Kitchens and Baths, anchors each section.

A cooking area, complete with a maple-wood island stained charcoal brown, takes center stage along the back wall. To its left, dishware shelves and a paneled refrigerator are hidden behind olive-green cabinetry embellished with arches that echo the curved range hood. And where there was formerly dead space, the designers installed what they call a “morning bar,” which houses the husband’s requested smoothie station, as well as a coffeemaker and wine fridge (for mimosas, natch) in handsome white oak.

For practicality’s sake, pocket doors on the cabinets disappear when open so everyday items are easily accessible, and slide closed when company comes to call. Giese says her clients “still send messages that say, ‘We’re living our best life in this space!’”

MORNING BAR

A wine fridge, coffee station, and smoothie prep zone are combined to streamline prework rituals.



Hardware: Rejuvenation. Rug: Unique Kitchens and Baths. Sink: Kohler. Faucet: Brizo. Art: Chelsea Fly.



INSTANT OPEN SHELVES

Pocket doors reveal a coffee bar and dishware display but can be closed to hide clutter.