

Ultimate Planning Guide p.36

KITCHEN + BATH IDEAS

Make It Pretty

Fresh Looks for Easy Living



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cabin character

CAMP-STYLE ARCHITECTURE
GETS A MODERN TWIST IN
THIS LAKESIDE COTTAGE.

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OPPOSITE: Architect Art Dioli configured a wall of windows to accentuate the kitchen's vaulted ceiling while showcasing lakeside views. **THIS PHOTO:** Weighty concrete countertop slabs were poured off-site and then installed in the kitchen.

DESIGN TIP
Balance colorful
cabinets with
a light, neutral
wall color.
Reserve wood
or dark tones
for flooring.

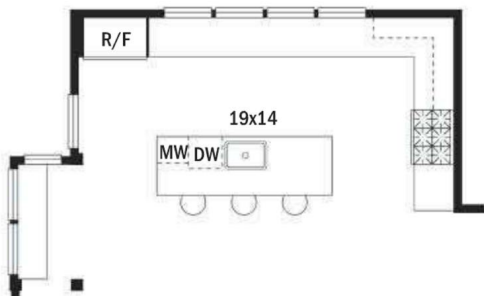


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his Maine vacation cottage buzzes with activity when the family that owns it is in residence. Much of it centers on the kitchen, where a spacious island hosts hearty buffets, sandwich-eating kids, meal prep and cleanup, and plenty of good conversation—all with a backdrop of lakeside panoramas through a dramatic two-story window wall. With plates and drinks in hand, folks lounge on the nearby window seat, sit at the great-room dining table, or head out to the backyard for alfresco eating.

That convivial interaction between people, interior spaces, and outdoor places is just what the homeowners envisioned when building their retreat on a lakeside point. The couple worked with interior designer Kristina Crestin, architect Art Dioli, and builder Ron Dunn to devise a kitchen-anchored great-room that accommodates a crowd, maximizes lake views, and perfectly reflects the water-and-woods surroundings.

“It was about creating easy flow and a casual camp feel,” Crestin says. “Because the kitchen was part of a long rectangular room with windows on three sides, it needed to blend with the living spaces and not be too oversized or ‘kitcheny.’”



OPPOSITE: Celadon cabinetry pairs playfully with the aqua enameled range to reinforce the casual appeal of this lakeside retreat. **ABOVE RIGHT:** V-shape corner drawers maximize storage and continue the horizontal line across the base cabinetry. **RIGHT:** Plumbing pipes become industrial-style towel bars that tie in to the kitchen’s bronze finishes.





Takeaways

- 1** Minimizing upper cabinets helps the kitchen blend with the adjacent living space.
- 2** Placing the main sink on the island allows the cook to be part of the conversation.
- 3** Concrete countertops can be customized to the ideal color and thickness.
- 4** Green cabinets and rough-hewn woods connect the room with nature.

Crestin took that kitcheny edge off by incorporating only a few upper cabinets, using taupe-washed clapboardlike walls, and employing reclaimed materials and organic surfaces to tie the space to the rest of the home.

“The homeowners like a modern look with clean architectural lines but wanted this home to fit the environment,” Crestin says. “We used local materials for a look that’s simple but very fresh. We took risks by using pea-green-painted Shaker-style cabinets and the aqua enameled range because we wanted to have fun but keep the focus on outside.”

Evoking the home’s natural setting, the greens and aquas partner with weathered beams and barn boards. “We started with the cool taupe as a baseline color and built earthy backdrops to spotlight the views,” Crestin says. “Ron Dunn found the barn boards and beams in a field, bought them, and then culled them at the house to ensure there was a good mix of colors.”

Hefty concrete counters were tinted to complement the V-groove pine-paneled walls and dark-stained maple floors. The rustic rhythms, vintage vibes, and contemporary cadences make this living-large kitchen worthy of a “Great Camp” designation: a refuge that’s rugged in spirit but with all the amenities of home. **KBI**

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OPPOSITE: Placing the sink on the island lets the cook interact with kids and guests gathered on barstools, on the window seat, or in the great-room’s seating area. **ABOVE RIGHT:** V-groove boards finished with a taupe wash create a quiet backdrop in this colorful kitchen. **RIGHT:** These bronze-shaded fixtures are adjustable and can be angled to brighten work spaces below.

