

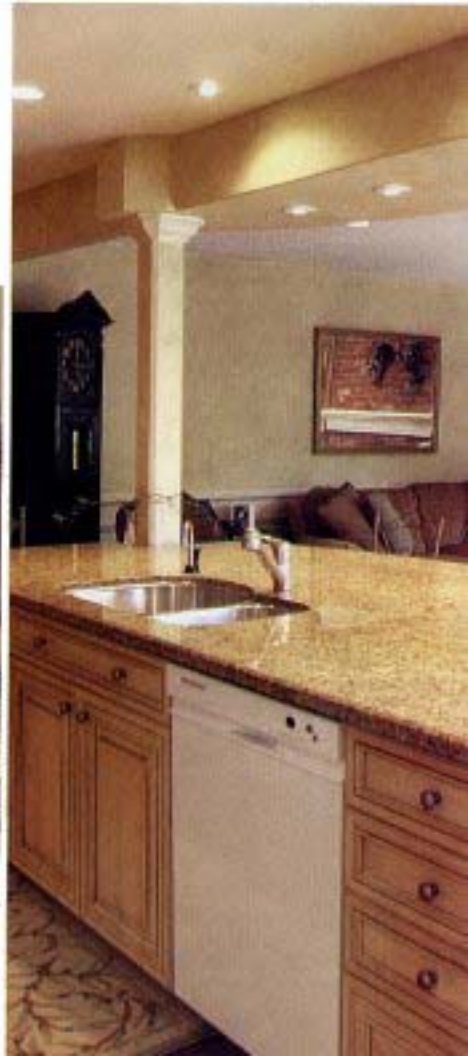


transformation



A south Burlington couple waited just six weeks for a dramatic new kitchen, courtesy of Burlington contractor David Grieve. Featured in the model room are maple cupboards and floors as well as an 800 lb. single slab granite countertop. Plentiful cupboard space and pot lights add to the appeal.

Photography by Ron Kuzyk



transformation

By Irene Gentle

When the owners of this ranch bungalow-style home in a gracious section of Burlington decided they wanted a new kitchen, they wanted it fast and thorough.

And with the help of Burlington contractor Dave Grieve they got exactly what they wanted in just six weeks.

That means when the crew moved in to tackle the project, the homeowners moved down – to the basement.

“Believe it or not, we still lived here,” said the homeowner. “We had our fridge and stove in the laundry room.”

The workers arrived like clockwork every morning for the six-week period, after which the homeowners were left with a stunning, spacious kitchen featuring a large maple island complete with a sink with a spigot for both filtered cold drinking water and hot water for tea, as well as a double sink and seating for at least four.

The island is topped by a single slab of granite that weighed 800 lbs. and took four men to carry in. The countertops are also granite.

The gleaming new hardwood floor is maple, and the kitchen boasts endless cupboard space, as well as a ceramic backsplash. Because the cupboards are so plentiful, the homeowners insisted on just one knob for each one.

The renovations spread to the front entry, which boasts a skylight to spill sunshine on the pale yellow walls. “You don’t know where to stop,” they said.

But the kitchen was the main focus.

“Everyone congregates in the kitchen anyways,” said the empty-nesters. “We’re down to just the two of us but it’s a gathering place.”

A decorative dining table already owned by the family was stripped and stained to match the new cabinets and now has pride of place in the airy room, which looks out on to the deck and pool.

“Everyone sits around the table, so it was non-negotiable,” they said.

The design of the open concept kitchen that blends with an existing family room came from Sandi Kennedy of Burlington, who also runs Simply Divine Florists.

The faux work in the kitchen, as well as painted clouds in the couple’s bathroom, which was redone several years ago and boasts a bright skylight as well as heated floors to keep toes warm on cold winter days, was done by husband and wife team Amal Hamady and Kelly’s Schroeder. They also selected the earthy tone of the kitchen.

“I just wanted something open and fresh,” said the homeowner.

A wall of windows looking out into the backyard contributes to the airy feel of the kitchen, as do the numerous pot lights installed by an electrician who does special effects for movies.

The renovations began last November and were completed by Christmas. The homeowners couldn’t be happier, saying the contractors came up with little details they would never have thought of. The walls for example, sport rounded corners, which aside from being more attractive, are also virtually chip-proof.

To keep the airy feel, the crew also installed phantom screen doors. The pocket-style doors are virtually invisible but bend at the ends to prevent ripping should an unsuspecting pet, like the couple’s mini schnauzer, attempt to exit before the screen is open. “It’s much more than we expected,” said the happy homeowners.

