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Kitchen & Bath design news

Serve & Conserve

Energy-saving appliances are hot - but high style
and high tech remain key must-haves

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as double refrigerators, double ice makers, double dishwashers, two sinks (with a third in the butler's pantry) – even a drink refrigerator for the grandchildren

In keeping with the look of the surrounding rooms, the kitchen features the same recessed panel cabinets from Expression in Wood, complete with Blum glides and exposed hinges for the cabinetry, island and desk area, complemented by Waterworks Boulevard matte nickel hardware.

"We can't do lacquer in southern California because of our environmental controls, so the cabinets feature a beautiful catalyzed finish," comments Oliver. "It's a conversion type of finish that's harder than a painted finish but not considered a lacquer finish."

Honed concrete countertops from CaesarStone are featured on the perimeter of the room. "I chose this because of the durability of CaesarStone for a busy family," stresses Oliver. "I also love the subtleness of how it looks so Old World, like it has been there forever. It's a beautiful juxtaposition against the other textures in the room."

The main texture she is speaking about is the marble used on the floors and walls. While wood plank floors are very popular in this type of home, Oliver chose instead to use a Cararra marble plank floor from Waterworks.

The same Cararra marble is also on the walls in a 3"x6" brick, separated by a darker gray Bardiglio marble for contrast.

Waterworks also supplied a custom stainless steel farmhouse sink that was extra wide and deep to accommodate clean ups from large family gatherings. It was paired with a faucet from Waterworks.

Thermador's Professional Series appliances were used, including a 42" Custom Panel Side-by-Side built-in integrated refrigerator with internal ice maker, integrated nine-program dishwasher with custom panel, 30" stainless steel Double Wall Oven/Microwave and 48" Pro Grand Dual-Fuel range with titanium griddle.

The kitchen island was designed to look like a piece of furniture, and features a custom mahogany top by Expression in Wood that has been finished with a marine finish. The island also features an undermount island sink and faucet from Waterworks, and a U-Line undercounter refrigerator.

Lighting the kitchen was a struggle, according to Oliver, in keeping with Title 24, California's new energy law. "I used 32 fluorescent recessed cans in the ceiling, with a satin lens to cover the bulb," she explains. Undercounter lighting is also used throughout the room.

Oliver also raised the ceiling in the center of the kitchen, leaving a drop soffit around the outer perimeter due to venting issues.

PANTRY PLEASANTRIES

The long, galley style of the butler's pantry posed some design challenges that were met with distinctive elements true to the home's period and architecture.

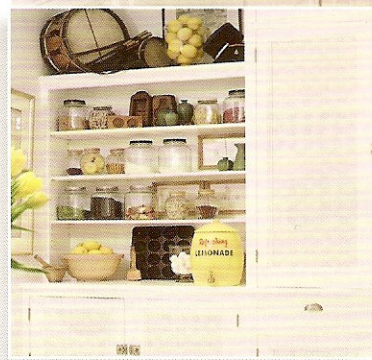
"In the butler's pantry, I wanted the cabinets – also created by Expression



The honed concrete Caesarstone countertops provide a strong textural contrast to the Cararra marble backsplash throughout the room. An extra deep farmhouse sink was custom made for large cleanups.



The galley-style butler's pantry features long drawers for linen storage and an Americana-inspired chest-on-chest design.



The original cabinet in the grocer's pantry was the inspiration for the entire kitchen space.

in Wood – to look very Americana, so I designed them to look like an American chest-on-chest," explains Oliver. "It allowed me to use really long drawers to accommodate the large number of linens the current owners have."

The custom finish on the cabinets is complemented by Waterworks Prism hardware in matte nickel and CaesarStone countertops. The room also features a cast iron farmhouse sink and faucet, both from Waterworks.

The butler's pantry includes an integrated 36" custom panel bottom-mount refrigerator from Thermador, which resembles a Sheraton highboy. "I integrated the refrigeration system so that it looks just like a piece of furniture," she offers. A full-size integrated dishwasher from Thermador is also incorporated into the space.

The Cararra marble bricks from Waterworks featured on the walls of the kitchen are also incorporated into the butler's pantry, also separated by the Bardiglio marble. The floor sports a diamond and dot pattern, incorporating Cararra as the diamond and Bardiglio as the darker keystones.

COMPLEMENTARY DESIGN

Oliver infused the space with personal elements from her past to give it a cohesive feel. For example, each room features different but complementary stencil designs that were created from her grandmother's candlewicking quilts.

"Artisan Ken Moffitt and I designed the stencils, which were used inside the kitchen and butler's pantry cabinets, on the ceiling of the butler's pantry, on the wall of the breakfast room, as a subtle stripe in the family room, and on the front of the grocer's pantry in the recessed panels," observes Oliver.

She also selected antique oil paintings that featured ships and boats – another of her interests from childhood – as well as images of ancestors and landscapes to put the finishing touches on this period space.

OLIVER'S

INTERIOR DESIGN - FINE FURNISHINGS - DECORATIVE ARTS

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