

# 145 sq. ft.

Provided enough space for a light-filled dining booth and a big island



Whatever charm that graced the original kitchen in this Portland, Ore., Craftsman house had been scrubbed away long ago by subsequent remodels. Restoring the missing sense of style was just one of several problems that Dana and Chris Hargunani wanted to address in their kitchen makeover.

Among the other problems, the kitchen wasn't kid-friendly and lacked space for their youngsters' high chairs. And as the heart of the house, the kitchen needed some dedicated hang-out space for occupants and guests alike. The ubiquitous lack-of-storage and minimal-counter-space situations also needed addressing.

The eM/Zed Design team of Keyan Mizani and Alexia Zerbinis began the makeover plans by first considering a built-in booth. Once they'd solved that critical element, the other pieces of the kitchen puzzle came together in short order.

**Designer:** eM/Zed Design, [www.em-zed.com](http://www.em-zed.com)  
**Builder:** Tom Champion Builders



## Cool detail

A chalkboard hides the existing chimney and HVAC trunk lines, and it provides some whimsy. Recessed lighting illuminates the board. Tip-out drawers at the bottom hold chalk and erasers.



## "aha!" moment

The kitchen needed an island or a peninsula for guests and for hanging out, but that wouldn't have been ideal for family meals. An eating nook had to be included in the plan. Placing the eating nook at the far end of the kitchen allowed a wall of windows for daylight and backyard views, and left plenty of room in the middle of the kitchen for an island, as well as space along the interior walls for cabinetry.

**Problem:** The kitchen was out of step stylistically with the rest of the house

**Solution:** Face-frame cabinetry (see p. 28), a built-in hutch, and the island's stained woodwork echo details in the adjacent dining room.

**Problem:** The booth needed a sense of presence apart from the kitchen

**Solution:** A cased opening, lower ceiling, and cushioned bench all give the booth a stand-alone bearing.



**Problem:** Too little counter space, not enough storage

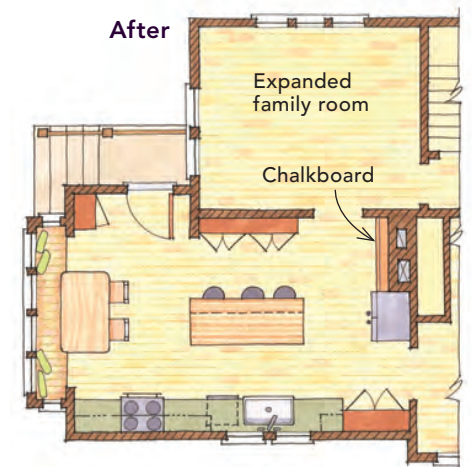
**Solution:** New base and upper-cabinet storage, augmented by a corner broom closet, a built-in hutch, and a food-prep/breakfast-bar island

Before



0 2 4 8 ft.

After



**Notable elements:** **Countertop:** Silestone, Amazon grey, leather texture • **Punched aluminum hutch panels:** Windsor pattern from McNichols • **Lighting:** Brightwood by Rejuvenation  
**Sink:** Shaws Original Single-Bowl Fireclay from Rohl