

USA KITCHEN TRENDS

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Volume 26 No 02

\$10.95

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VOLUME 26 NO 02

\$10.95US

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point of difference

Center of attention

A single, dramatic element can set a scene and even inform architectural elements of the design





# Leading statement

A pewter range hood provides the departure point for this generously sized kitchen

*Above:* The texture and color of the hand-hammered hood is accentuated by interior valance lighting in this kitchen by kitchen designer Gail Drury and interior designer Janie Petkus. While the hood has an artisan, old-world look, this is balanced by elements such as the nickel lighting over the island. A sliver of metal above the perimeter granite countertop picks up on the material of the dramatic, curvaceous feature.

**An eye-catching element within a design can** set the scene for a project. Textures, materials and even the architecture of the entire space can take their cue from a strong centerpiece.

This expansive kitchen, by kitchen designer Gail Drury with input from interior designer Janie Petkus, is part of a large-room addition to a home with mostly smaller-scale interiors. The original kitchen has been kept intact, with minor revisions, to be used as a butler's pantry.

The new kitchen occupies an extensive area with 14ft-high ceilings and the challenge was to achieve the cozy, warm feel that the homeowner

wanted from the large, open space, says Drury.

"The focal point of the room is the custom, hand-made pewter hood," says Drury. "Its proportions match the scale of the room, but symmetrical cabinetry on either side – support columns and a large, arched valance – anchor it back to the more modest proportions of the immediate kitchen area."

Symmetry is a feature of the kitchen and the centrally placed hood accentuates this. It also provides a tonal and material touchstone for the room. The adjacent backsplash picks up on the metal color of the hood, as does the grain in the



substantial granite countertop on the island.

Lighting fixtures above the island, a nickel sink and a thin nickel line detail that runs through the backsplash all reference the deep, hand-worked pewter.

"Ceiling treatments played their part in taming this room's volume," says Drury. "We created the beam design to separate out three individual tray areas. Combined with the beadboard panels, this brings a more intimate presence to the sweeping ceiling plane."

Janie Petkus says the kitchen's crisp white aesthetic gives the space a peaceful, clean feel.

"Besides the hood, pots of moss in the upper, decorative niches of the cabinetry provide some of the few points of color," says Petkus. "The island base is in a rich, dark tone that recedes from the eye, while the turned leg elements give the 13ft-long island a furniture-like appeal."

Overall, the kitchen balances the traditional with the modern and every inch of the space is put to good use – right down to the pull-out spice racks next to the range hood.

Despite the size of the two-room addition, careful attention to proportions means this kitchen offers a close, efficient workspace.

*Above:* Symmetry is an important aspect of the design, with a tall, integrated refrigerator and freezer set at opposite ends of the perimeter cabinetry. The dry bar at one end of the kitchen, complete with wine cooler, has custom glass doors. The upper section of the doors mimics the doors at the top of the range wall, while the cross design on the lower section adds visual interest. The antiqued glass subtly showcases the owners' barware.

**Kitchen designer:** Gail Drury, NKBA, Drury Designs (Glen Ellyn, IL)  
**Interior designer:** Janie Petkus, Janie Petkus Interiors  
**Architect:** Styczynski, Walker & Associates  
**Builder:** Shawn McPartland  
**Kitchen manufacturer:** Grabill  
**Cabinetry:** Dove white paint on maple for perimeter; Espresso paint on cherry for island  
**Countertops:** Lagos Blue granite with cove ogee edge for perimeter; Oyster Pearl granite stacked with cove ogee edge for island  
**Backsplash:** Carrara marble; satin carrara marble; Midi Brick, polished, flowing liner; white bronze feature insert  
**Kitchen sink:** Old nickel silver by AP Austin from KB Galleries  
**Faucets:** Polished silver bridge faucet with levers by Perrin & Rowe from KB Galleries  
**Oven, cooktop, microwave, dishwasher:** Dacor  
**Refrigeration:** Thermador  
**Ventilation:** Custom hood designed by Gail Drury, manufactured by Events  
**Waste disposal:** Kitchen Aid  
**Fireplace:** Mantel by Artifactual Furniture & Design  
**Wall tiles:** Waterworks and Bronzework Studio, The Tile Gallery  
**Kitchen and breakfast room furniture:** Chairs, clients' own, re-covered in Kravet; kitchen island swivel stools by Ballard Design  
**Great room furniture:** Cocktail table by Collections Reproductions from Michael-Cleary; end tables by Hendedon; sofas, clients' own; game table chairs by Lorts from CAI; chair fabric from Robert Allen; ceiling beams by Artifactual Furniture & Design  
**Wallcoverings:** Kitchen and great room walls in Carrington Beige by Benjamin Moore; all trim in White Dove by Benjamin Moore

**Right:** An emphasis on natural materials – stone, metal and wood – is continued in the equally generous, adjacent living room. Here the wood beams, actually hollow and made from existing barn wood, help bring a human scale to the soaring ceilings. Furniture coverings sit within the general palette of earthy tones and were chosen by the interior designer. The placement of the sofa provides a degree of separation between the rooms.



**Lighting:** Kitchen island, Visual Comfort from Hinsdale Lighting; breakfast area lighting custom designed by Janie Petkus Interiors, manufactured by New Metal Crafts; fireplace sconces by Visual Comfort from Hinsdale Lighting  
**Drapes:** Custom by Janie Petkus in Schumacher fabric with Osborne & Little banding fabric; Great Room drapes Lee Jofa  
**Window hardware:** Window Art

**Story by** Charles Moxham  
**Photography by** Eric Hausman

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**Above:** The range hood played a part in the architectural symmetry of the addition. The stone mantel seen here is directly opposite the hood and continues the emphasis on natural materials. Contemporary and functional, the polished nickel sinks represent one side of the balancing act between traditional and modern. Flat-paneled cabinetry faces augment the transitional feel of the kitchen, while stepped-out edging on the countertop underplays its depth.