

Chicago®

Love where  
you live

# HOMES + GARDEN

**COMFORT AND JOY** **20+**  
PAGES OF  
HOLIDAY  
STYLE,  
GIFTS, AND  
PARTY IDEAS

**INSIDE  
MARINA  
CITY**

**REVAMP YOUR  
LAUNDRY  
ROOM**



NOVEMBER/DECEMBER 2010

U.S. \$4.99



**PLUS**  
PRIZE-WINNING  
KITCHEN AND BATH  
MAKEOVERS



# The Art of the Redo

Winning designs by local members of the National Kitchen and Bath Association

by Gina Bazer and Lisa Cregan

**W**e recently caught up with some of the winners of this year's Design Visions competition, held by the Chicago Midwest Chapter of the National Kitchen and Bath Association. Judges' decisions are based on many factors, including the degree to which designers have shown imagination in creating personalized, aesthetically pleasing spaces. We asked these pros how they masterminded their prize-winning renovations, turning clients' wish lists into beautiful, functional spaces.

RESOURCES SEE BUY GUIDE, PAGE 96.



THESE UNOBTUSIVE COUNTERTOP GARAGES ARE PERFECT FOR STORING SMALL APPLIANCES.

*Polvere concentrated on creating a sense of symmetry throughout the space.*



BEFORE



**THE WISH LIST**

- WET BAR-BEVERAGE AREA
- DISPLAY AREA FOR VINTAGE POTTERY COLLECTION
- BANQUETTE SEATING
- PLACE TO HIDE SMALL APPLIANCES
- MIX OF CABINET AND COUNTERTOP FINISHES
- MODERN YET CLASSIC FEEL

**THE DESIGNER**  
**Pamela Polvere**  
 (pamelapolvere.com)

**THE CHALLENGE**  
 Inject a dull, style-less kitchen with urban smarts.

**THE RESULT**

From boring to bold

In this Oak Park home, Polvere's objective was to combine classic elements with modern ones. Keeping in mind her clients' request for both dark wood and white cabinets, along with varied countertop materials, she worked toward symmetry in her design to keep the finishes from looking cacophonous. The wet-bar side of the kitchen has a wall of

espresso-stained cherry cabinetry and stainless steel countertops; the other side has white-painted cabinets and black granite countertops, a nice play on opposites. The schemes meet in the middle of the room in a substantial island of dark wood with a light-colored Carrara marble top. Tall cabinets flank lower work surfaces on both sides of the room;

glass shelving units on either end of the window-seat banquette in the dining area have the same balanced effect. Chunky nickel hardware (playing off other, more delicate, crystal knobs), sleek bar stools, stainless steel appliances, sparkly pendant lights, and different shades of green in paint and accessories add just the right dose of modern style.