

# This Old House

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Cottage-style  
flower box

Handsome  
pet gate

Vintage  
keepsake  
storage





When you fall in love with a house for its great character, remodeling is a matter of helping new spaces live in harmony with old ones. At least, that's how Tom and Kim Prescott saw the renovation of their 1866 Italianate home and its woefully outdated kitchen. The couple and their three daughters lived in the suburban Naperville, Illinois, house for 10 long years before tackling a major overhaul that included bumping out the kitchen and adding an adjacent laundry room. By then, working with architect Fred Burghardt, kitchen designer Pamela Polvere, and contractor Marty Brummel, "we knew exactly what we wanted," says Tom. Their wish list included more storage and prep space and a big dose of vintage style, including a spot for the rebuilt 1930s Magic Chef stove that Tom bought on eBay and drove home from Montana. Today, after adding and subtracting space, the Prescotts have Shaker-style cabinets, honed black granite and butcher-block countertops, and room to hang out, making the kitchen their go-to spot. Says Tom, "It finally feels right, like having a part of the house that was always missing."



[before]

**before** The disjointed, L-shaped kitchen had a range isolated on one wall and little prep space.

**after** Kim and Tom, with their English bulldog, Murphy, enjoy a kitchen that balances high performance with vintage charm.

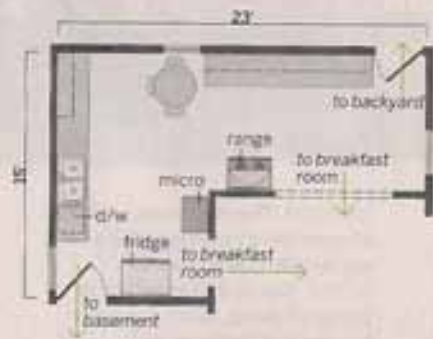
before+after: kitchen



The chrome-trimmed range hood was custom made to match the 1930s stove.

before

The 262-square-foot kitchen was poorly laid out, with the range around the corner from the fridge. It also lacked prep space.



after

By adding and subtracting space, the kitchen became a square. It's smaller by 4 square feet but much more workable.

- 1 Bumped out the sink wall 6 feet to create a step-saving layout, and added a pair of windows over the basins.
- 2 Added a storage island that hides a microwave and doubles as a table.



- 3 Moved the range and fridge to create efficient work triangles, and flanked the range with prep counters.

- 4 Trimmed the L, donating that space to a new laundry room next door.
- 5 Widened an opening to the breakfast room for better flow. A basement door was removed and a new entry leads to the hall.





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1930s Magic  
Chef is flanked  
by Shaker-style  
cabinets with  
vintage-look  
chrome hardware.  
Cabinets: Plato  
Woodwork



↑ Old-fashioned  
latches on the uppermost  
cabinets allow doors to  
close with an evocative click.  
Latches: Rejuvenation

← The bridge faucet  
is a graceful counterpoint to  
the chunky sink. The sink  
cabinet's feet echo the stove's;  
hickory flooring grounds the  
buttery cabinetry. Faucet: Perrin  
& Rowe. Sink: Rohl. Dishwasher:  
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