



LIGHT AND DARK Off-white cabinets and crisp white subway tile balance the richly colored walnut base units below. The elongated subway tile's surface variations give it a handcrafted look.

CRAFTSMAN STYLE: SIMPLE BY NATURE

A backlash against Victorian opulence, Craftsman architecture arose around 1905, continuing until about 1930. It is characterized by simple, sturdy forms that celebrate handcraftsmanship, showcasing natural wood elements such as beams, trimwork, and built-ins, and an earth-tone palette.

After years spent in a rambling Victorian-era home in Portland, OR, Andrew and Raina Lasse longed for something simpler—and found it in a 1910 American Foursquare whose interior was full-on Craftsman, with trademark flat casings, columned room dividers, and a built-in hutch in the dining room. The small kitchen, however, had “that classic country-kitchen look from the 1990s,” says Andrew. Think builder-grade cabinets with a pickled finish, laminate countertops, and blue tile on the floor. It was also short on cabinets and, due to a defunct chimney that ran beside it, had a superskinny pantry.

Flat-panel cabinets with inset doors, raised to ceiling height, were key to improving both function and form—frill-free in the Craftsman tradition, yet rich and welcoming via the beautiful tones and wood grain of clear-stained walnut on the lower units. White uppers and subway tile with pale wood floors offer a light counterpoint—and offset the often overcast Northwest skies. “Timeless design and high-quality workmanship ensure that this kitchen can last another 100 years,” says Bill Myles, owner of Craftsman Design and Renovation, which took on the project. It certainly has a forever feel for the Lassés. “It was important for us to honor the integrity of our house,” Andrew says. “The new kitchen does that while being totally in line with how we operate daily. It even inspires us to cook more!”



BEFORE Laminate counters, particleboard cabinets with arched panel doors, and cracked ceramic floor tile did nothing to reflect the craftsmanship evident elsewhere in the house.

BEFORE, STYLING: CRAFTSMAN DESIGN AND RENOVATION TEAM

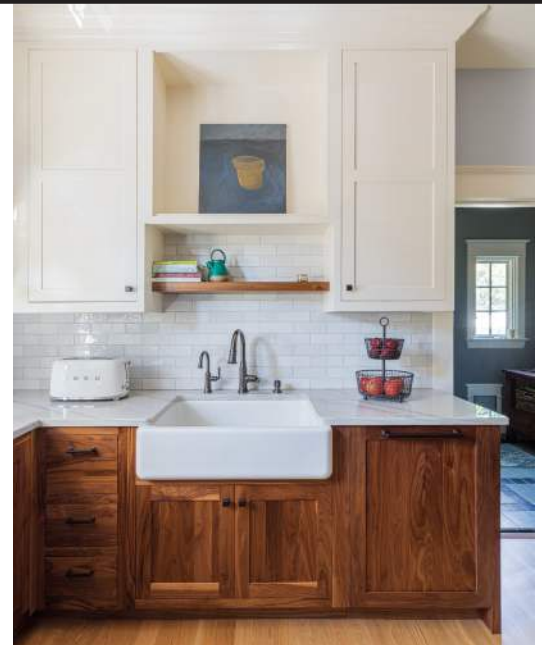


◀ FURNITURE LOOK

A built-in desk offers a spot to peruse a cookbook or open mail. Taking the cabinets to the ceiling maximizes the space; crown molding gives them a finished look.

▶ BASIN BOON A

fireclay apron sink harks back to the enameled cast-iron workstation sinks of the early 1900s. Quartz countertops have the traditional look of marble without the maintenance headaches. ■



▲ **ATTENTION TO DETAIL** The range hood's walnut trim ties into the base cabinets—and echoes the head casing above the doorway. The narrow cabinet to the left of the range holds sheet pans.

FLOOR PLAN: IAN WORPOLE

WHAT THEY DID

To retain the proportions of the original house, the homeowners chose to work within the existing kitchen's 152 square feet.

1. Kept the layout, with the main prep area along the windows, and the fridge, sink, and range remaining in their places.
2. Removed an unused chimney stack alongside the old pantry, nearly doubling its storage.
3. Ran all the new cabinets to ceiling height, including ones added above the fridge, and over a desk to its left.

