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PHOTOGRAPHY STACEY BRANDFORD



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The generous island in the kitchen of this Toronto home is perfect for hosting family gatherings and parties. It also houses a Sub-Zero beverage centre, a microwave oven drawer and recycling and garbage bins.

**CABINETRY,** Cameo Kitchens and Fine Cabinetry; Pure White COUNTERTOPS, Caesarstone Canada; polished Calacatta marble ISLAND COUNTERTOP, Olympia Tile + Stone; Calacatta Oro marble BACKSPLASH TILES, Antica Tile & Stone; RANGE TOP, DOUBLE WALL OVENS, WARMING DRAWER, Sub-Zero and Wolf; RANGE HOOD, Custom Range Hoods; PENDANT LIGHTS, Circa Lighting; STOOLS, Sita Importing; Big Horn STOOL FABRIC in Ebony, Maxwell Fabrics; Bodum COFFEE PRESS, Hudson's Bay; Jasper Conran at Wedgwood MUGS, William Ashley China; CAKE, Phipps Bakery Café.

The bold combination of black, red and gold brings this white kitchen to life.

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When *Style at Home* design editor Jessica Waks laid eyes on this charming 1934 Georgian-style house in midtown Toronto, she knew it was the one. The only glitch? It required a major overhaul to bring it into the 21st century. Visions of an addition with a spacious kitchen, a glam eat-in area and a chic family room quickly reaffirmed that this was to be her forever house. Here, we ask her how she made it all happen.

## What were the main chal-

**lenges?** I knew from the start that I wanted to completely gut the original house and build an addition to accommodate a luxurious kitchen with a large island, a convenient eat-in area and a cozy family room suitable for lounging or watching TV. The biggest challenge was designing an openconcept space that wouldn't have a support column stuck in the middle of it (my pet peevel). To avoid this eyesore, I opted for a structural support beam, which was cleverly camouflaged with a coffered ceiling.

What was your overall vision for the space? I envisioned a warm and inviting hangout space, with plenty of glamorous and tailored details to make it feel sophisticated and decorated. I inherited a passion for cooking from my mother, so I decided to work with Cameo Kitchens and Fine Cabinetry to create a well-laid-out kitchen with loads of storage for appliances and gadgets and lots of prep space. And, because I love to entertain, I needed a long island for setting up buffet meals or hosting wine and cheese nights.

What was the look and feel you wanted to achieve? I'm a big fan of white kitchens, but I wanted something a little different, so I decided to accent mine with warm





HARDWARE SATIN BRASS KNOBS AND CUP PULLS

1.10

COUNTERTOPS PURE WHITE CAESARSTONE

34

ZONE 1 KITCHEN

ISLAND COUNTERTOP POLISHED CALACATTA MARBLE

CABINETRY SHAKER PROFILE PAINTED IN CLOUD WHITE OC-130 BY BENJAMIN MOORE

FLOORING WALNUT-STAINED WHITE OAK FLOORING The custom range hood makes a statement in white and brass, especially when combined with the Calacatta Oro marble backsplash that is carried right to the ceiling. The marble's gold-toned veining highlights the warm metal perfectly. Panelled REFRIGERATOR, Sub-Zero and Wolf; SINK, Kohler; FAUCET SET, The Rubinet Faucet Company; CABINETRY HARDWARE, Ginger's; Kilrush ROMAN SHADE FABRIC in Ivory, Robert Allen; ROMAN SHADE SEWING, Wesley Seto Design; grosgrain RIBBON (on Roman shade), Mokuba; FLOORING, Mare Flooring; Michael Aram silver BOWLS, Elte; faux shagreen TRAY, Made Goods.

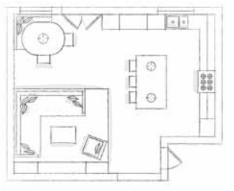


brass – instead of the more expected nickel or chrome – for a truly distinct, luxe look. Once I found the fabulous Rubinet faucet, I built on my choice accent finish with cabinetry hardware, pendant lighting and special details like the trim on the range hood. To give the overall impression of fresh white and glam gold, I went with panelled appliances (in the same Shaker style as the cabinetry) and a white Kohler cast iron sink, keeping any cool-toned metals to a minimum.

What is the one investment piece you couldn't do without? Since this is my forever house, I wanted to outfit it with the best chef-style appliances available. So, when I discovered that I could get a Sub-Zero panelled fridge with a built-in filtered water and ice dispenser hidden inside of it, I was sold. It was the perfect way to conceal the fridge because it's the first thing you see when you walk into the space and it can even be viewed from the front door. The fridge, along with the Wolf range, was all I ever dreamed of!

Explain your design choices for the kitchen's eat-in area. The banquette was a creative way to maximize seating in a tight corner. I had it covered in shiny black faux leather with deep diamond tufts to make it feel like you were sitting in a restaurant. The table base was a lucky vintage find, and the oval top was custom made from the same durable Pure White Caesarstone as the perimeter countertops in the kitchen. The result is a highly functional space that not only looks great but is a breeze to clean up, too.

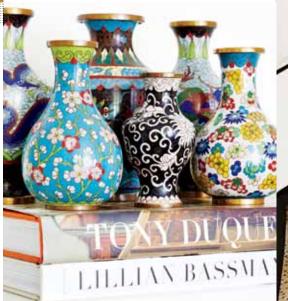
**FLOOR PLAN** 



**ABOVE** The kitchen's eat-in area features a "buffet" of Jessica's favourite design styles, from the retro-glam vintage Sputnik pendant light and table base to the classic chinoiserie-inspired breakfast chairs.

Apple Peel CW030W WALL PAINT, Selectone Paints; BREAKFAST TABLE BASE, Patina Antiques; Pure White BREAKFAST TABLETOP, Caesarstone Canada; Big Horn BANQUETTE FABRIC in Ebony, Maxwell Fabrics; BREAKFAST CHAIR REFINISH-ING, Beresford; Brentano Hard Candy BREAKFAST CHAIR SEAT FABRIC in Cherry, Primavera.

**RIGHT** Vintage cloisonné vases that Jessica inherited from her grandmother personalize the space.



See how Jessica designed her first apartment at **STYLEATHOME.COM/JESSICA.** 

Brass accents and hits of black, white and red connect the family room to the rest of the space. For instance, the embossed-vinyl fabric on the ottoman picks up on the signature red knobs of the Wolf range in the kitchen and the breakfast chairs in the eat-in area. Jessica also diversified the palette slightly, introducing more forgiving and family-friendly hues like the rich sapphire chenille on the sofa. The pansy prints (Jessica's favourite flower) with touches of gold leaf are a perfect match for this lively space.

Soul Mate SECTIONAL FABRIC in Indigo, Maxwell Fabrics; OTTOMAN, Louis Interiors; Reva OTTOMAN FABRIC in Rio, Kravet Canada; SIDE TABLE REFINISHING, Beresford; RUG, Reznick Carpets; Modern Pansies PRINTS, Natural Curiosities; FRAMING, Pi Fine Art; TABLE LAMP, Robert Abbey; SCONCES, Circa Lighting; Designers Guild Orangerie TOSS CUSHION FAB-RIC, Primavera; Schumacher Leather Stripe TOSS CUSHION FABRIC in Jet, Bilbrough & Co.

FOR SOURCES, SEE OUR WORKBOOK



66 I LOVE MY FAMILY ROOM BECAUSE IT ENCOMPASSES ALL THOSE DECORATOR DETAILS THAT MAKE A ROOM LOOK POLISHED, YET IT STILL FEELS COZY AND CHIC AND TOTALLY MEI 99