Doshi / O’Brien Kitchen Remodel – Design Statement

I’ve created the heart of this vintage bungalow’s home. With consideration to the needs of the Doshi / O’Brien individual family members, lifestyle, aesthetic, and the space available to use in this home, you’ll find a proposed kitchen remodel that checks the boxes, as listed below.

**Space Planning and Function**

- The back door has been relocated for access to a larger deck space, perfect for cooking and family gathering. The entry’s adjacency to a landing area inside the kitchen will allow Owen to prep and stage dishes for the BBQ on the reverse side of the exterior wall.
- The back door creates a traffic flow for all members of the family. With a site line to the Dining Room, it is a straight shot through the kitchen. Easy access to the bathroom is on the right.
- The wall that previously divided the kitchen and rear entry has been replaced with a structural beam, creating a navigation flow around the core of the main floor.
- To prevent general congestion, a serving space has been added at the former rear entry. While entertaining guests, food and drink can be made available outside the kitchen.
- Ample storage in the base cabinets at the serving bar makes space to manage recycling and to store canning and preserving supplies.
- A full height pantry cabinet beside the back door will host most of the family’s dry goods and open the remaining cabinets in the kitchen for general storage.
- The wall between the kitchen and dining room has been removed, opening up a friendly connected space for family meals.
- A C-shaped cabinet layout creates multiple work zones.
  - A baking area for Deepa is near the sink and in close proximity to the wall oven.
  - Owen has counter space on either side of the gas range, and a peninsula to spread out ingredients for larger meal prep.
  - A coffee station and landing area between the refrigerator and wall oven offers another prep zone for the household.
  - The peninsula bar seats 3, and is a great place for children to participate. An out-facing cabinet for a child to store and access her craft supplies also makes it easy for her to tidy up.
- Upper cabinets have been largely eliminated to ensure that the majority of storage space is accessible to the entire family. The exceptions include open shelving beside the range, an ideal place for Owen to show off his favorite pots, pans, and cooking gear.
- The cabinetry over the Wall Oven, Refrigerator, and above the Coffee Station are both tall and deep and a great place for Owen’s storage, or for pieces that are not frequently accessed by the family.
- A portable step-stool is always nearby at the refrigerator’s stub wall for Deepa and the others to reach up high as necessary, and for children to join in at the counters.
The wall oven/microwave combo has been installed low in the cabinetry. The lower oven is at the height of a standard range’s, and the microwave above it will be an easy and safe reach for shorter family members, with plenty of landing area on the right.

**Lighting and Aesthetics**

- The upgraded kitchen will be outfitted with recessed lighting in the ceiling and 4 decorative pendant task lights in traditional Indian styles; 2 at the sink area and 2 over the peninsula.
- Integrated lighting in the vent hood supplies ample lighting while cooking at the range.
- Under cabinet LED strip will serve as task lighting for the coffee station.
- The new back door is tall at 8’ with two glass panels to bring natural light into the home.
- The old double hung windows in the kitchen have been replaced with multiple counter-height single-hung windows, filling the walls to the exterior corner of the kitchen and increasing the room’s natural lighting to 26% of the 225 sq. ft. space.
- The windows overlook Deepa’s garden area and the new deck expansion and drench the room in natural lighting. The family will appreciate the extra daylight during the cold, dark, northern winters.
- A reclaimed barnwood plant shelf follows the length of the kitchen windows, creating a visual break and an opportunity for Deepa to nurture an indoor garden and display her favorite keepsakes. Blinds and hanging planters can be mounted to the underside of these to optimize the use of space and access to light.
- The solid wood cabinetry is European style with a painted finish; the family will enjoy quality and spacious cabinets made of sustainably harvested lumber and are easy to clean. I’ve chosen shades of green that bring the outside in.
- The counters are a terrazzo-type material made with recycled glass in a neutral color. The solid surface is non-staining and easy to maintain, but the pattern is also forgiving for a busy family’s messes. A backsplash slab of the same material fills the space between the countertop and the window stool (9.5”), which makes cleanup even easier.
- Behind the range and at the coffee station are hand-glazed tile backsplashes in vibrant ruby colors; a nod to the jewel tones of Deepa’s Indian heritage.
- Oil-rubbed fixtures and hardware in farmhouse styling throughout adds a rustic, homey.
- The serving bar’s counter is constructed from the dining room wall’s salvaged fir framing.
- The kitchen’s floor has been replaced with locally sourced reclaimed planking to match the rest of the house’s original wood.
- Dark metal barstool bases are a rustic style and have been reupholstered with vintage area rug remnants, a unique upcycled and eclectic accent that compliments the overall bohemian feeling of the room.
ELECTRICAL LEGEND:
15 AMP SINGLE POLE LIGHT SWITCH
BRAND: LEVITON, MODEL: M32-05601-2KM
15 AMP 3WAY LIGHT SWITCH
BRAND: LEVITON, MODEL: R30-05803-2K5
15 AMP 4WAY LIGHT SWITCH
BRAND: LEVITON, MODEL: R30-05804-2K4
15 AMP 125-VOLT DIVERSE GFCI OUTLET
BRAND: LEVITON, MODEL: M42-GFTR1-04H
WALL OVEN - 50 AMP 125/250 VOLTS SINGLE OUTLET
BRAND: LEVITON, MODEL: R30-05306-510
VENT HOOD, 15 AMP 125-VOLT DIVERSE GFCI OUTLET
BRAND: LEVITON, MODEL: M42-GFTR1-04H
REFRIGERATOR - 15 AMP 125-VOLT DIVERSE GFCI OUTLET
BRAND: LEVITON, MODEL: M42-GFTR1-04H
DISHWASHER - 15 AMP 125-VOLT DIVERSE GFCI OUTLET
BRAND: LEVITON, MODEL: M42-GFTR1-04H
RANGE - 50 AMP 125/250 VOLTS SINGLE OUTLET
BRAND: LEVITON, MODEL: R30-05306-510
CUT TO FIT LIGHT STRIP
BRAND: COMMERCIAL ELECTRIC;
MODEL: G02464
4" LED RECESSED CAN LIGHT
BRAND: HAO; MODEL: HLB601PFS1EM4R
PENDANT LED LIGHT
SUPPLIED BY HOMEOWNER
4" STUB OUT FOR NATURAL GAS
* ALL SWITCHES 48" ALL RECEIPTABLES 42" ABOVE FINISHED FLOOR (AFF) UNLESS NOTED
HAND-GLAZED ARTISAN TILE

21.42 sq. ft.

WINDOW GLASS

RANGE WALL ELEVATION

1/2": 1"
DECK ENTRY WALL ELEVATION

1/2" : 1'
Refrigerator Wall Elevation

1/2" : 1'
STAIR LANDING PLATFORM BOTTOM
CUSTOM LAMINATED BUTCHERBLOCK COUNTER FROM RECLAIMED WALL FRAMING

10.32 sq. ft. WINDOW GLASS

SERVING BAR WALL ELEVATION
1/2" : 1"
NKBA 2020-2021 Student Design Competition

DOSHI / O'BRIEN KITCHEN

PERSEPECTIVES

P1

P2

P3