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THE GLAMOUR OF GRAY IN WYCKOFF

KITCHEN DESIGN: DON DINOVI, ULRICH INC., RIDGEWOOD PHOTOS: PETER RYMWID

Burring the lines between traditional and contemporary, kitchen designer Don DiNovi of Ulrich in Ridgewood strikes a sophisticated balance with this mix of classic white cabinetry and transitional color. One of a series of remodeling jobs for the owners of a colonial home in Wyckoff, this project seamlessly incorporates the kitchen, dining and family room into one functional, comfortable space, DiNovi says.

The homeowners' desire for a kitchen that would accommodate multiple cooks drove the kitchen design, says DiNovi, who created a three-zone space, defining each with a striking, furniture-like piece to ramp up the visual interest. The glazed cherry armoire anchors the food storage zone and conceals a generous pantry and Sub-Zero refrigerator. The cooking zone features a Wolf cook top, warming drawer and double wall oven, plus must-haves like a Wolf microwave drawer and Wolf electric cooking module. The third zone is the center prep island, with a Franke sink and brushed nickel glazed faucet by Waterstone, as well as comfortable seating for three.

The island and hutch are custom painted in federal gray and finished with Cambria's natural quartz stone in Torquay. Above the island, a pair of polished chrome Sussex chandeliers by Hinkley Lighting introduce a "retro" vibe that complements the Wood-Mode maple cabinetry's arts-and-crafts-style door in Nordic White. The adjacent hutch features glass-front upper cabinets for the homeowners' heirloom china and glassware. Below, a pretty, patterned tile backsplash with a hand-painted finish adds a touch of shimmer.

Much of the design work was inspired by the addition's new chamfered ceiling and its charming eyebrow window. DiNovi chose the window to "soften the lines of the ceiling" and set the stage for the chimney-style Wolf hood, glamorous opaque painted glass backsplash and counters of polished granite in absolute black with an eased edge. On the floor, DiNovi went light and bright, choosing a durable porcelain tile floor that replicates the look of slate but offers better color management, he says.