

New England HOME CT

Clean
&
Serene

REDEFINING
THE
KITCHEN



Ceramic pendant lights from Circa Lighting have a concrete-like look for textural interest.

A wide window above the sink ushers in the light.



An oak wall under the island can withstand the kicking of little feet.

PERSONALITY PLUS

As a mom of five, interior designer

Laura Gorman understands the importance of function and efficiency in the kitchen. That doesn't mean skimping on the beauty, however. Because this Westport kitchen was in a spec home, Gorman and kitchen designer Karen Berkemeyer felt giving it personality was important. "I wanted it to have the character of an older home," Gorman explains.

The design pros traded opinions on everything from the layout, which has all the surface space and storage options any home cook could dream up, to the colors and materials. Shaker-style cabinetry with brushed brass hardware gives the space its classic look. "People often put crown moldings at the top of cabinets," Berkemeyer points out, "but we did a very simple molding with square details."

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—DESIGNER KAREN BERKEMEYER



Enigma, a durable manufactured material that's a dead ringer for marble, tops the island.

Lucite stools offer a contemporary touch and are a cinch to wipe clean.

The beverage station's oak surround adds warmth and personality.



Refrigerator drawers keep cool drinks at the ready at the beverage station.

Personality comes from the variety of textures and colors. One bank of cabinetry sports a dreamy blue-gray paint with a built-in beverage station of warm oak, a material repeated in the floating shelves near the sink. Island pendant lights with ceramic shades are a textural counterpoint to the glossy white subway-tile backsplash walls.

The design team doesn't know who came along and bought this house, but it's easy to believe the pretty and practical kitchen is what won them over.

EDITOR'S NOTE: For details, see Resources.



INTERIOR DESIGN:
Laura Gorman,
Laura Gorman Interiors

KITCHEN DESIGN:
Karen Berkemeyer,
Karen Berkemeyer Home

BUILDER:
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