



**Wide-plank, distressed oak flooring grounds** the bright and cheerful kitchen without taking away from the modern-yet-classic aesthetic.

**TURN TO PAGE 100** to see this home's bath redesign!

# TURQUOISE DREAM

This kitchen may borrow a few elements from its ancestors, but it is most certainly not your mother's kitchen.

By Sarah Jane O'Keefe  
Photography by Holly Lepere

*'With finishes outdated by 40 years, an awkward layout and a deadline of the homeowner's move-in date, this kitchen needed a fresh update—and fast.*

"The goal was a classic look but [to] have some unique elements to make the design stand apart from some of the current trends," says Lauren Shadid of Lauren Shadid Architecture, who completed the design.

## CHANGING THE FLOW

In order to make the entire home as functional and family-friendly as possible without moving any exterior walls, Lauren got a little creative with altering the floor plan of the kitchen.

"I suggested we flip the existing family room location with the kitchen to allow better flow through the house, [to offer] views to the yard and to create the breakfast nook," she says. To make this happen, a masonry fireplace in the middle of the house had to be removed. "We replaced it with a gas-burning fireplace on the outer wall in the great room, so you enjoy it from the kitchen, dining room and living room," Lauren says.

Not even the front door was exempt from the redesign: it was moved





to create another bedroom, while enclosing a covered patio space added the breakfast nook.

"There was really only room for a galley kitchen, so the island provides one side of the galley, but it leaves it feeling open and spacious," Lauren says. "Furniture layouts during schematic design helped us determine placement of the island and balance the spaces appropriately."

#### NUTS & BOLTS

Bright, white custom-made shaker-style cabinets make up most of the kitchen's storage, but the island (built from the same cabinetry) received a personalized blue hue. Its color choice is not at all random, Lauren says.

"The quartzite countertops have some lovely turquoise crystals interwoven with the veining. The owner and I fell in love with it, and pulled that color into the backsplash and

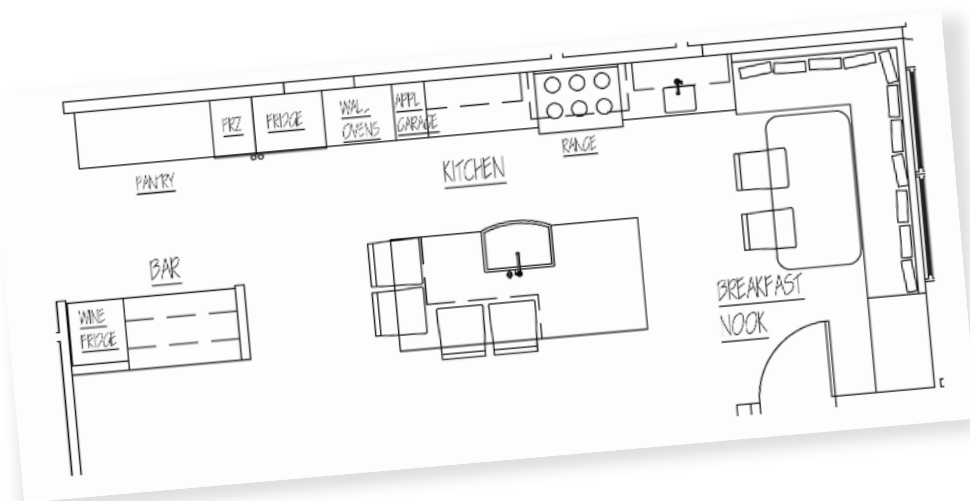
island paint." This bold move adds a lively freshness that perfectly suits the young homeowners.

The custom cabinetry is not without clever storage tricks and hidden features, however. Beneath the banquette seating are several drawers ideal for stashing table linens and other miscellaneous items.

An appliance garage is discreetly tucked into the side of a cabinet near the stove, and when the front of the cabinet above the appliance garage is opened, cookbook storage is revealed. Next to the refrigerator is a large pantry area—complete with a slide-out cabinet and pullout drawers.

Unlike the typical apron-front sink, the homeowner found an unusually curved option online. "We both love the curve of it—it adds some elegance to the traditional farmhouse sink," Lauren says. A prep sink and water filter were added at the far end of the kitchen near the breakfast nook to allow for easy refills for kids.

**LAUREN  
DESCRIBES THE  
DESIGN AS**  
"California-  
fresh  
transitional."



#### Quartzite countertops with integrated turquoise crystals

anchor the blue kitchen and add glisten to the design. Because the galley-style kitchen only has one wall, Lauren and the homeowner opted for a mosaic backsplash that picks up on the counter's turquoise accent.







(Opposite)  
**The home bar is situated at the opposite end of the kitchen** from the breakfast nook. Both the upper and lower cabinets open to the kitchen as well as the dining room area.

(Right)  
**A large pantry offers** organized food storage with the help of custom pullout features.

#### ONE-OF-A-KIND STYLE

An eye-catchingly beautiful backsplash adds personality and glisten to the long kitchen. When Lauren and the homeowner spotted it, they knew it was the perfect fit for the turquoise theme.

"There is a lot of vertical storage along the wall and only a small area of backsplash, as much of the counter space in the kitchen comes from the island. So we thought we could easily do a small-scale mosaic like this without it overwhelming the kitchen with business," Lauren says.

One of the many elements that set this kitchen apart is a built-in wine bar. With little remaining space to fit the brand-new wine refrigerator in the kitchen, Lauren designed a bar area that could house the wine refrigerator while providing separation between the kitchen entry, pantry area and the dining room. The cabinetry is accessible from both the kitchen and dining room on the opposite side, making getting a glass a breeze.

The bright and cheerful breakfast nook helps to tie the kitchen and family room together, keeping the cook a part of the party and everyday happenings. The whole space is connected with orange and turquoise accents, as well as sleek, clear chairs at the island and breakfast nook.

SEE RESOURCES, PAGE 126.

For more information on Lauren Shadid, visit [laurenshadidarch.com](http://laurenshadidarch.com).



## Design Cheat Sheet

- Idea to steal:** Small doesn't mean inefficient. Make the most of your square footage, and get a little creative to make use of your available space. "A small space can be beautiful and utilitarian by utilizing space efficiently," Lauren says.
- Designer budget secret:** Bring the contractor in as early as possible—the same goes for a structural engineer if walls are being moved. "It's those hidden elements beyond finishes that are often the big cost drivers of a project. From there, you can manage the more flexible costs such as finishes and fixtures," Lauren says.
- Building basics:** "Start by determining the kinds of appliances you want, and start to build your kitchen around those. Make a list of kitchen-element 'must-haves' and 'nice-to-haves,'" Lauren says.





FLIP TO PAGE 52 to see  
this home's kitchen!

A custom-designed vanity suits the  
bathroom space perfectly. Coordinating mosaic  
tiles accent the area, creating a backsplash that ties  
in with the shower's accent wall.



# Mini Yet *Mighty*

At 100 square feet, this bathroom  
shows that an effective layout, a few  
innovative ideas and classic lines can  
make any space a great place to be.

By Sarah Jane O'Keefe  
Photography by Holly Lepere

One of the main  
things the  
homeowner  
wanted was a large  
tub. Lauren borrowed  
space from utility  
closets and cut the  
front corner at an angle  
to make room for the  
dream feature. Insets in  
the wall sport the same  
tile as the shower.



*With a fresh take on typical elements, this master bath gives tradition an update with a hint of global flair.*

When Lauren Shadid of Lauren Shadid Architecture and Interiors tackled the redesign of this master bath, she was met with the challenge of making a two-person tub fit within its long and narrow footprint.

#### STARTING FRESH

The redesign began with gutting the bathroom. Forty-year-old fixtures were tossed in favor of a clean slate. Working within the confines of the house on one side of the bathroom, Lauren was able to repurpose space from a series of choppy utility closets to add to the bathroom's square footage.

"We were able to capture some space from an existing furnace closet and water-heater closet—the furnace was moved to the attic, and the water heater was replaced with a tankless [version]," she explains.

This added space made it possible to accommodate the homeowner's request for a two-person tub. "The only way to make it all fit was to enter the tub and shower on angles," Lauren says. The glass shower enclosure connects the two and makes the room feel more spacious.

#### IN THE DETAILS

To highlight the shower's tile, Lauren hid the soap niche behind a pony wall separating the vanity from the shower.

"That way, you just have a pretty view of the shower accent wall without the cluttered look of the bath products," she says. "We also created a little niche with a door facing the tub to store bath salts, etc."

Ordinary mirrored medicine cabinets over the sink were traded for a more sculpted option that breaks up the crisp angles of the rest of the design while still concealing necessary storage.

**TILE IS THE STAR OF THIS REDESIGN.**  
Carefully coordinated mosaics accentuate the beauty of the boldly veined gray-and-white marble.



**Natural light floods the small bathroom** and bounces off of the marble, which highlights every area of the design. The angled entrance to the shower gives off a grander feel while leaving room for the oversized tub.

Custom-designed cabinetry anchors the room without distracting from the other elements of the design. Even the access panel on the tub was taken into consideration, donning the same custom-designed and custom-fabricated door panel.

Lauren describes the bath as being "transitional with some Moroccan elements in the details and lighting." Its cool blue-and-gray palette offers a calm environment that lets the beauty of the tile and stone shine.

"The stone has so much movement in the veining, and the gray and blue in the bathroom tempers that movement by keeping everything tranquil," she says.

SEE RESOURCES, PAGE 126.

For more information on Lauren Shadid Architecture and Interiors, visit [laurenshadidarch.com](http://laurenshadidarch.com).

## Design Cheat Sheet

**1** *Idea to steal:* Identify which elements are the most important to you. "For this bath, it was the tub and the stone—everything else evolved off of those," Lauren says.

**2** *Designer budget secret:* "Start with your must-haves early on to establish a realistic budget," Lauren says. "When it comes to finishes and finish plumbing, there can be big variances in price; so if you are on a tight budget, it can be worth it to hunt around for economical solutions that are similar to higher priced options."

**3** *Building basics:* Don't let size intimidate you. "Even a small bath can feel grand with the right layout and material pairings," Lauren says. Play with angles to discover the right layout that will maximize your square footage.