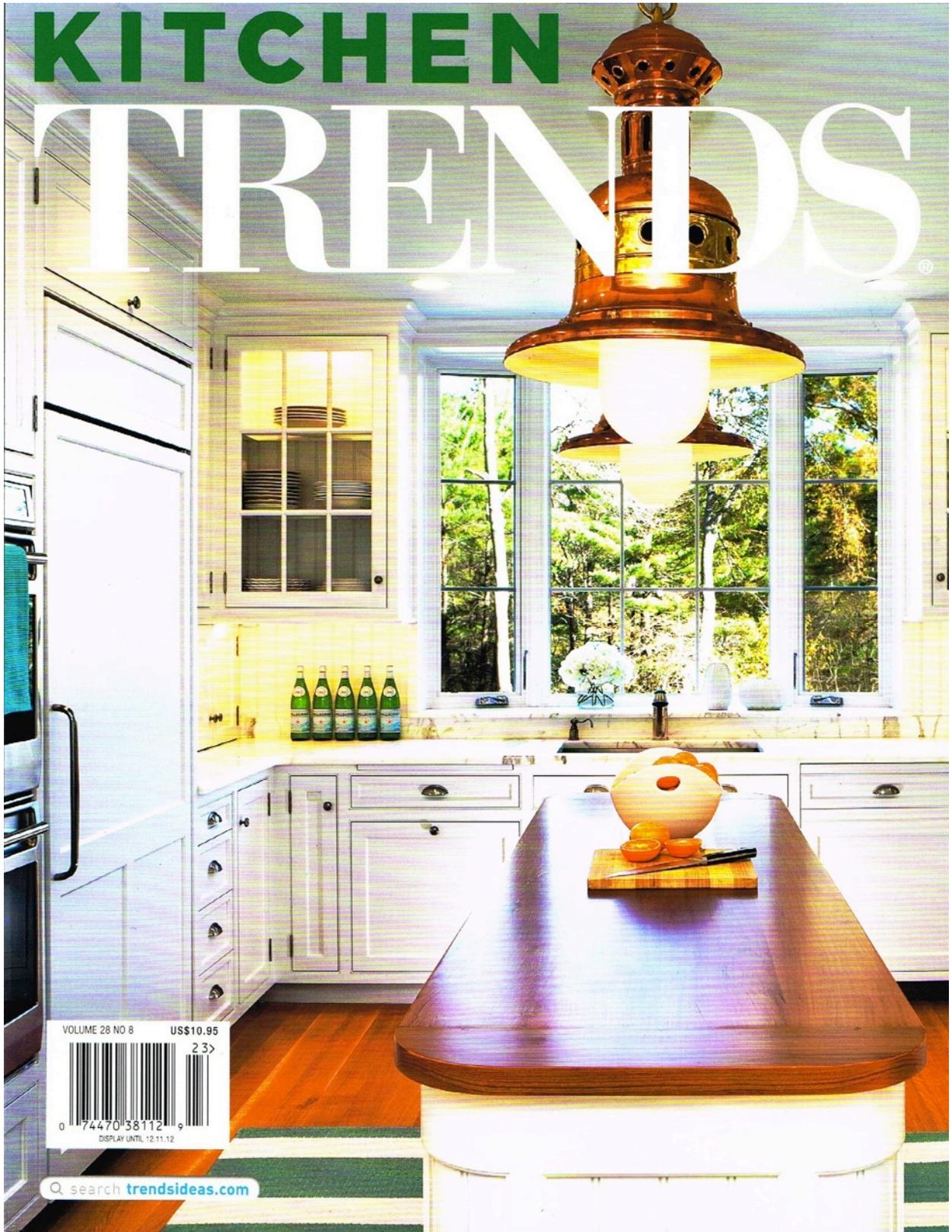


# KITCHEN TRENDS



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# After-dinner drinks

A kitchen renovation allows for a division of space to include a casual family zone and a grown-ups area for more formal entertaining

**Above:** Kitchen designer Nadia Subaran was asked to remodel a family kitchen to create a space that would fulfill a variety of entertaining requirements.

**Facing page:** Frequent entertainers, the homeowners wanted to create a space that was adult-friendly. Subaran turned an under-utilized corridor into a butler's pantry complete with wine storage, refrigerator drawers and ice maker.

**There's a house like this on every street** – the one where all the kids congregate, where dinner parties just seem to happen and where you can have a cup of coffee and a chat whenever you drop by.

Keeping this character intact in the remodeling of their family kitchen was all-important for the owners of this property, says kitchen designer Nadia Subaran.

"This is a couple that loves to entertain at home, and where there is always a dinner or party or kids' movie night.

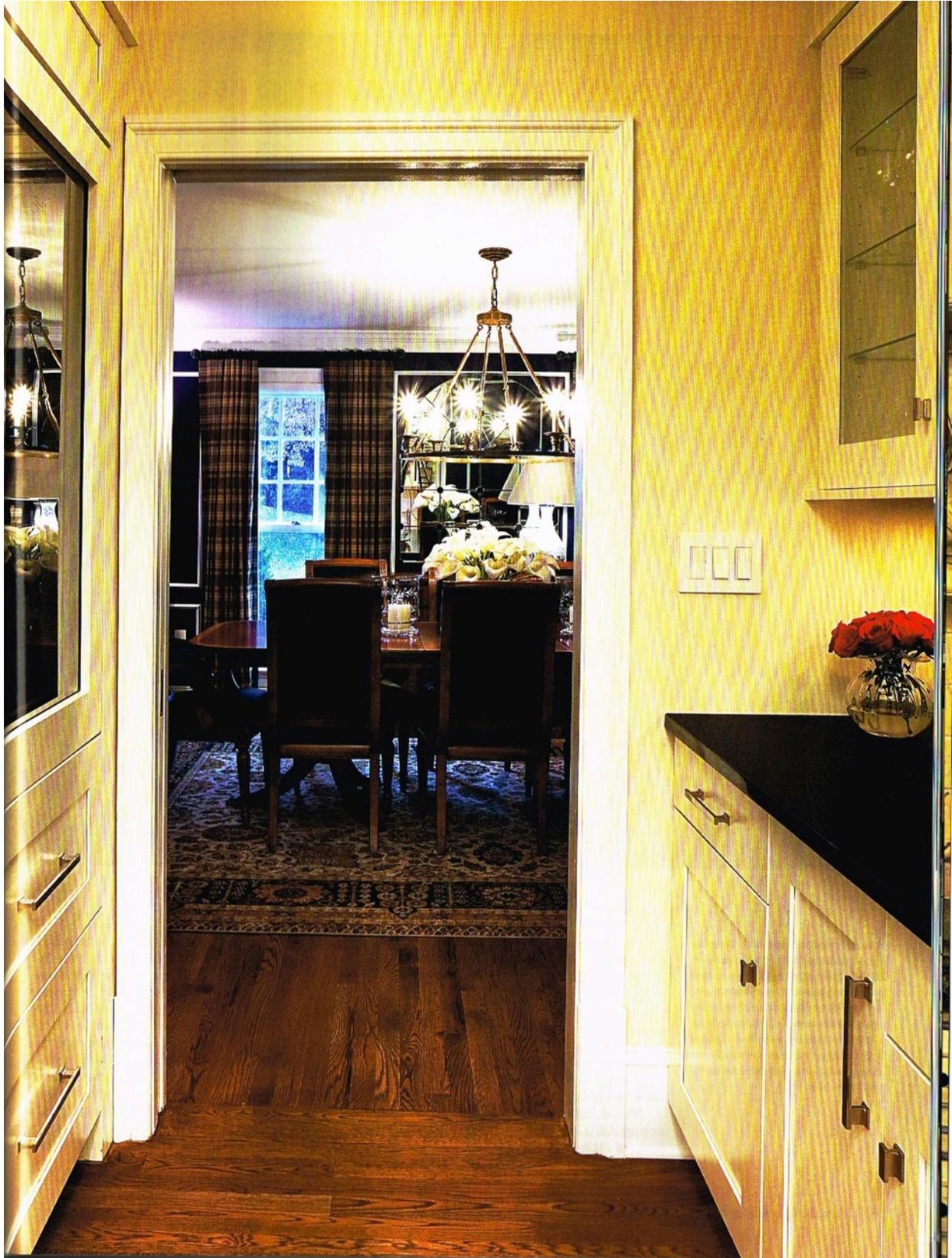
"So they were mindful of creating a kitchen that would better address the many functions it was called on to fulfill, but at the same time would not sacrifice any of the warmth and feeling of the original."

Physically, the kitchen is located in the middle of the

house with the family entry and mudroom on one side, the family room on the other and formal dining room behind.

As the kitchen is the hub between these other rooms, increasing the overall amenity was key, says Subaran.

"One of the wish-list items was for an adult space – wine storage and a beverage center – that could be enjoyed by the parents and their guests."





**Above and center:** Situated between the kitchen and the dining room, the butler's pantry features a neutral palette augmented by darker accents. Glass-fronted cabinets mitigate the sense of enclosure within the small space. The contrasting color scheme is reversed in the dining room with its dark walls and white accents.

"A small corridor between the kitchen and the dining room was the perfect space to be repurposed as a butler's pantry. Here we were able to accommodate wine storage, refrigerator drawers, an ice maker, coffee machine and prep sink, as well as storage for cups and glasses."

Visual amenity, too, was important. Given the limited size of the space, Subaran

specified a neutral palette with darker accents.

"With the transition from the kitchen, which is very light and bright, to the dining room with its darker tones, it was important to maintain a cohesive feel.

"Neutral cabinetry in this space echoes similar cabinetry in the kitchen, while the dark granite counters add contrast. This mix is then explored in the

reverse in the dining room."

Upper cabinets in the pantry have been recessed and are glass fronted to maximize the sense of space. Glass tiles form the backsplash and help to bounce light around the room.

"We have been able to achieve a high level of functionality for what is essentially a small area," says Subaran.

"The butler's pantry really



complements the dining room aesthetically and practically. It shows how a relatively minor change can have a big impact.

"The owners, particularly the husband, love the flexibility it has brought to their entertaining – and there isn't a single guest who doesn't want a similar space at home."

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**Architect:** Fox Architects

**Kitchen designer:** Nadia Subaran, Aidan Design (Bethesda, MD)

**Kitchen manufacturer:** Wood-Mode

**Cabinetry:** Brookhaven Sausalito Recessed in maple with Alpine White painted finish and cherry with Dark Lager stained finish

**Countertops:** New Cambrian Black granite; White Princess quartzite from Fairfax Marble & Granite

**Lighting:** Equinox pendant by Thomasville Lighting from Ferguson Bath, Kitchen & Lighting Gallery

**Backsplash:** White glass subway tile from Best Tile

**Kitchen sink:** Franke stainless steel farmhouse

**Faucets:** Blanco

**Range and microwave:** Wolf

**Ventilation:** Zephyr

**Refrigeration:** Sub-Zero

**Dishwasher:** Miele Diamante fully integrated

Story by Justin Foote

Photography by Jamie Cobeldick

**Above:** With limited natural light from the dining room and kitchen, under-cabinet lighting was essential. The glazed surface of the glass subway tiles that make up the backsplash helps to bounce the light around the space. Pull-out shelf storage maximizes the available space and provides easy access.