

Girls and
Bullying

Rosslyn's
Prohibition Past

Farm-to-Table
Fine Dining

Knock-Out
Kitchens

Arlington

MAGAZINE

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WOMEN ROCK

From board rooms to operating rooms to college classrooms, they're calling the shots



Stephanie Akbari, MD
Medical Director, Reinsch Pierce
Family Center for Breast Health,
Virginia Hospital Center

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FALLS CHURCH ■ MCLEAN

KNOCK-OUT KITCHENS

family style

Steve and Stephanie Richey called their pre-renovation kitchen “the cave.” But they were stumped on what to do with the small, dark space in their ranch-style home in McLean—particularly with a budget that wasn’t enough for an expansion.

Following the advice of designer Nadia Subaran of Aidan Design, they removed a wall between the kitchen and dining room to create one light-filled, 288-square-foot free-flowing space. A generous island now serves as the transition point between the two areas, as well as the hub of family life. Stephanie, a busy mom who works part time at her kids’ school, cooks dinner while her young sons, ages 9 and 11, sit at the island to do their homework. On weekends, it’s just the spot for lazy mornings and chocolate chip pancakes.

For improved traffic flow, Subaran moved the sink and dishwasher into the island to

create an efficient work triangle. Knowing that the family would eventually pursue a second-phase remodel (they plan to convert an existing screened porch into a family room that connects to the dining room) she designed the kitchen so that Phase 2 can begin seamlessly without requiring the removal of any additional walls.

The kitchen’s neutral palette is also forward-thinking. Rather than choosing trendy colors and finishes, the Richeys opted for classic white cabinets and black granite countertops. This base scheme is easily accented with paintings, ceramics and movable furniture (interchangeable pops of color that can be easily swapped out, whereas installed features such as cabinets and countertops cannot). Big-ticket items such as the Wolf gas range and luxe backsplash of handmade subway tiles were balanced out with economical choices such as a KitchenAid refrigerator and dishwasher, and Ikea barstools.



Slip-covered Henriksdal barstools from Ikea are both practical and pocket-friendly. Cost: \$89.99 each.

Great remodels aren't always a matter of adding on. Sometimes the game-changer is what you take away.

by Catherine Funkhouser | photos by Seth Freeman

Painted maple cabinets from Brookhaven are accented with polished nickel cabinet hardware from Restoration Hardware.

Hand-molded backsplash tiles from Architectural Ceramics create a "white on white" textured affect.

The countertops are Absolute Black honed granite.



Budget: \$60,000
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