



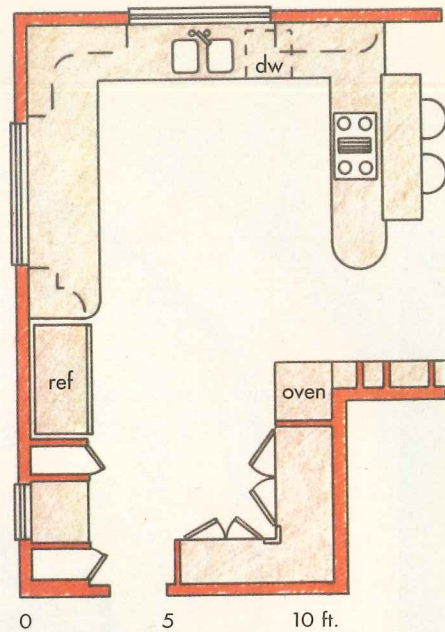
a fresh take



on history

Photographer: David Livingston

Topped with hefty soffits, divided-light windows echo the fine-lined details of custom cabinets. Upper cabinet doors are accented with stained glass and copper strips.



Copper, koa wood and gold-toned granite (left and below) add warm-as-toast character to an all-white kitchen. A collection of vintage toasters, some dating back to the 1920s, are displayed on open shelves. The cooktop peninsula (right) separates the kitchen from an adjacent family room.

Art and architecture renew a 1911 kitchen

THE NEW OWNERS OF A 1911 CRAFTSMAN-STYLE HOUSE HAD TWO prime directives for Berkeley, California, architect Robert Nebolon: Right the wrongs of a 1970s updating that all but obliterated the vintage character of their kitchen, and create a new but historically evocative kitchen capable of catering to the needs of a modern family of four. Moving a basement stairway from the kitchen to the outside of the house and eliminating an old chimney flue gave the architect room to maneuver and nearly doubled the kitchen's size to 225 square feet. Two-thirds of the resulting rectangular space became an efficient U-shaped work zone with long runs of granite counters, interrupted only by a double-bowl sink and a peninsula cooktop. The remaining third, at the opposite end of the kitchen, was lined with tall pantry cabinets. Having finessed a sensible floor plan, Nebolon looked to the past for inspiration for the design of the custom cabinets. He found it in the white painted cabinets of early-twentieth-century Scottish architect and designer Charles Rennie Mackintosh, who used vertical wood strips and squares for surface decoration, and the Dutch painter Piet Mondrian. Nebolon's cabinet doors and drawers—segmented with wood strips and inlaid with blocks of copper and koa wood—combine elements of both, evoking a period style without reproducing it.



SOURCES

Architect: Robert Nebolon.
Cabinets: Custom.
Refrigerator: Sub-Zero.
Cooktop: Creda.
Dishwasher: Asko.
Sink: Kohler.
Microwave: Quasar.
Windows: Custom.
See page 112.