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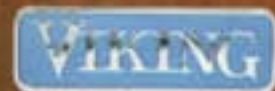
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14 award-winning
PUGET SOUND
kitchen & bath designs

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BY ETHAN CHUNG
PHOTOS BY DANE METER
STYLING BY JANNA LUTKIN

KITCHEN GETAWAY

Indoors meets outdoors in this top-notch design

ENTRY CATEGORY: LARGE KITCHEN

1

AWARD: FIRST PLACE
DESIGNER: SCOTT & SANDRA GJESDAHL
FIRM: BRISTOL DESIGN AND CONSTRUCTION



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From the island, there's a sweeping view of Lake Sammamish and in the backdrop, a serene panorama of trees lines the crystal blue sky. Here, culinary creations are born and entertaining possibilities are endless. Homeowner Dr. Ann Cowlitz imagined her perfect kitchen island retreat in the center of a gorgeous kitchen and Scott and Sandra Gjesdahl owners of Bristol Design and Construction, made her dreams come true.

The design also won the Gjesdahls the coveted President's Award by the Puget Sound chapter of the National Kitchen and Bath Association.

"Our goal was to really connect the indoor with the outdoor," explained Scott Gjesdahl. "We wanted everything from the kitchen to reach out to the lake, and vice versa."

The owner lamented the confined space of her previous kitchen. It didn't take advantage of the amazing lake view and overall, it had a cramped feel. Cowlitz knew cooking — and cleaning — would be a lot more of a treat while taking in the spectacular lake view.

To truly integrate the interior with the exterior, designers used as much glass on the outside wall as possible, including for the backsplash behind the range. They chose art glass from Skyline Design in Chicago with wave patterns that could disguise splattering and mimic the natural wonder outside.

The countertop reaches out and extends under the window composition to create an exterior buffet. The 1,200-square-foot deck outside was rebuilt to make sure boundaries and lines followed the contours of the kitchen. Cowlitz can open kitchen windows and serve food from the inside and out to the guests.

A transformation of this magnitude wasn't easy. Bristol Design faced many challenges, most notably moving a critical structure point in order to open the exterior wall of glass. They had to install four 1,000-pound steel beams. After the installation, there was just enough room to finish the soffit details. The soffits became an essential aspect of the kitchen. They're functional for the vent and structures and offer a unifying look to the different areas of the kitchen.

Another challenge to consider was storage. To move away from the pre-existing cramped kitchen layout, the design team opted to shy away from upper cabinets as much as possible. Instead, they used a tall, deep second island behind the cleanup sink for dish storage. This cabinet actually has a dual purpose — besides the extra storage, it defines kitchen circulation without lessening the actual space. Hidden in the dining room entryway are two Sub Zero refrigerator/freezers. The main island conceals a wine cooler, garbage receptacles,



and dishwasher, plus it offers ample storage for cooking hardware and small appliances.

The design team selected materials to complement the owner's tastes, kitchen design and space needs. With the lake only steps away, lots of wet traffic passes through the kitchen, so travertine from Import Tile & Stone was installed on the floors. Underneath there are heat coils that heat the travertine and keep feet warm. Beautiful Aphrodite granite and concrete from Pental Granite keep the counters stylish, but are durable enough to withstand kid messes. The designers recommended the Aphrodite granite because of the cobalt mica chips. They commissioned Hard Ware Glass to make custom cobalt glass appliance pulls, pendant lights, platters and dishware. Bristol also custom designed all the sapele and maple cabinetry in the kitchen. The woods are such a beautiful marriage that the design team decided to incorporate the look in other rooms of the house.

As the kitchen was being remodeled, Cowlitz decided the rest of the home could use a facelift, too. Three bedrooms, four bathrooms, three decks, an entry, office and family room were transformed. It took two years.

"The owner joked that they only needed new flooring," says Scott Gjesdahl.

Now they have that, and so much more.

RESOURCES

COUNTERS

Aphrodite Granite, Concrete
Pental Granite

CABINETRY

Sapele, maple
Bristol Design and Construction

CABINET HARDWARE

Linea
Hard Ware Glass

FLOORS

Premium Travertine
Import Tile & Stone

REFRIGERATOR/FREEZER

Sub Zero
Crossroads Appliances

WINE COOLER

Sub Zero
Crossroads Appliances

RANGE

Wolf
Crossroads Appliances

HOOD

Vent-a-hood liner,
Custom shroud by Bristol
Crossroads Appliances

DISHWASHER

Miele
Crossroads Appliances

MICROWAVE

Sharp
Crossroads Appliances

ART GLASS

Skyline Design, Chicago

LIGHTING

Hard Ware Glass

SCONCES

Justice Designs
Seattle Lighting

SINKS

Blanco
Keller Supply

FAUCETS

Hand Grohe Interactive
Keller Supply

FILTERED WATER DISPENSER

Waterstone Zoe
Keller Supply