



**Something *"New"*:
A Fresh Take on an
American Classic**

By ALANA WILLIS



Stapleton,

a thriving, trendy Northeast Denver community built on the site of the former Stapleton International Airport, is a popular place for young professional families to put down roots and build their futures. Comprised of twelve neighborhoods, Stapleton caters to those who don't care to sacrifice their hometown values for big-city living. And from the purposeful small-town vibe of the architecture to the abundance of specialty shops, Stapleton is a fresh new take on the American suburb.

It's here in Stapleton that we meet homeowners Stephen and Melissa New, and take a tour of their delightful new kitchen. Ashley Christensen, the lead designer at TVL Creative, worked with the News to plan a kitchen remodel that utilized every available inch of space while retaining a stylish, elegant feel that flowed with the rest of the home's sleek profile and traditional elements.

"This home features a transitional design. We used a lot of traditional elements but added a bit of jazz to the space with pops of black and brass metals and unexpected textures," Ashley says. "We wanted their kitchen to feel crisp and clean, but didn't want to create

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Designer Ashley Christensen of TVL Creative



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The phrase “major remodel” doesn’t do justice to the overhaul the News’s home received – their kitchen was part of a renovation of the entire first floor. “Down to the studs,” as Ashley Christensen puts it. Ashley developed the layout, drew the construction documentation, created 3D renderings, made material selections, and managed the integrity of the design throughout construction. Working alongside

general contractor Tim Coughran and his team at Alderview Construction, Christensen began the remodel process in October 2018.

Stephen and Melissa were kept in the loop from day one. The News wanted to do away with the dark cabinetry and poor utility of their original kitchen, and envisioned a warm, inviting space perfect for large and small gatherings. “We had some ideas in our head but then TVL Creative created the rest,” he says.

The finished product is a professional organizer’s dream come true: a beacon





of functional space, with a place for everything, and everything in its place. Stunning off-white shaker cabinets by UltraCraft create the clean, crisp atmosphere, while brass hardware underscores the traditional design elements.

A playful green custom island topped with dramatic Cambria quartz includes

cabinets, drawers, and shelves that maximize storage. For the perimeter countertops, Pental quartz further define the sleek, modern components of the transitional design.

A warm marble tile with subtle creams and grays serves as the perfect backsplash and ties the color scheme together. A built-in buffet area with shelves for wine glasses,



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as well as a handy little nook for hanging coats adds extra utility in a way that is both inventive and chic.

The JennAir appliances, from Appliance Factory Fine Lines, including a 42-inch wide French door refrigerator, 36-inch gas cooktop, and impressive double wall ovens meet the homeowners' standards for high-end functionality. "We wanted the look and reliability of JennAir," Stephen says, adding, "I particularly love the obsidian interior of the refrigerator."

Ashley lists the kitchen's innovative light fixtures, which include Boulevard Hook Island pendant lights and a machinist glass globe pendant dining room chandelier as her favorite elements of the remodel. "I loved 'Lighting Day'. From working in oddly lit spaces with construction lights, to getting the gorgeous fixtures installed and seeing the space take on its personality, I'm head over heels for the light fixtures in this home!" she gushes.

Stephen and Melissa were definitely put through their paces during the project — the family lived elsewhere for much of the remodeling process, and spent the last month of the project living in their basement. In the end, however, Stephen's advice to anyone considering a major kitchen remodel is, "Do it! It's such a rewarding experience and truly something you'll value the remainder of the time you spend in the house."

"Our clients always guide the design for us and it's important that they feel excited about all of the selections we're making," Ashley says. "Our slogan is 'design that loves you back', and it's absolutely true!"



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