

*space to* **create** BY ALANA WILLIS





**N**icholas and Shannon Kakasenko decided to remodel their Broomfield kitchen for space, comfort, functionality, and for their busy lifestyle. And as parents of a teenage son and daughter, the Kakasenkos were looking for a kitchen that accommodated the family's needs, not the other way around.

The family's recently purchased home is 23 years old but the kitchen's new look is farmhouse-inspired, Shannon describes. "The house needed a fresh, lighter feel. It was dated, dark, and kind of depressing. The lighter colors make it feel so much happier."

"Happy" is exactly what comes to mind standing in the newly-renovated kitchen. This six week remodel with the Kakasenkos at the helm themselves, utilizing Nicholas' own handyman skills and engineering background, designed the kitchen with help from Jeri Mason, a designer with Denver's Stone International who also provided the stone and cabinetry.

"We sat down with Jeri and explained what we were looking to do," Shannon says. "We showed her pictures of our current kitchen and gave her the measurements. She quickly came up with a plan for cabinets. We made some tweaks, picked out our stone and started talking dates!"

Shannon wasn't looking for more to keep clean in the kitchen which led to Jeri's idea to attach a kitchen table to the island, creating a multifunctional eating space that adds convenience to the family's daily routine. The only challenge to everyone's favorite part of the kitchen would be overcoming the table's reluctance to support the weight of the quartzite countertops.

Those quartz countertops create the perfect backdrop for a high-end package of KitchenAid appliances from Appliance

Factory Fine Lines, specifically chosen by Shannon for her positive past-experience with the brand. “I absolutely had to have this particular refrigerator because we had just bought this same refrigerator and dishwasher at our old house before we sold it, and I loved it!”

Known for its superior functionality and modern design, KitchenAid was the ideal appliance brand for a family like the Kakasenos, who place convenience, practicality, and style at a premium. “KitchenAid has

a very good reputation and I’ve been impressed with all KitchenAid appliances we’ve owned in the past,” Shannon says.

To preserve the view of the crackled white subway tile backsplash, a convection, smooth-top slide-in range was chosen. The island’s gray cabinetry then adds contrast as the whitewashed wood-grain plank tile flooring brings even more traditional style to the kitchen without sacrificing a durable, easy-to-manage space. Soothing gray lowlights further brighten the kitchen.



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A kitchen island with a thick, light-colored marble countertop and a dark wood base. The base has four decorative, turned legs. Several teal-colored metal stools are tucked under the island. The background shows a kitchen with light-colored cabinets and a window with blinds. A wreath is hanging on the wall near the window.

*“My daughter and her friends love to bake so I’ll really enjoy seeing them use this space to create some amazing confections!”*



“We chose Repose Gray by Valspar for our paint color. It is the perfect gray without blue or purple undertones,” says Shannon, adding, “I love our light fixtures! They are just the right size for this kitchen and give a slightly modern touch with the round shape.”

The final result of the Kakasenos’ remodeling project is a gorgeous kitchen that makes everybody feel at home and welcome from the moment they

walk in. “Her kitchen makes me feel happy!” says Jeri Mason, adding, “It’s inviting and met all the clients’ expectations.”

Shannon can already imagine how her kids will utilize the kitchen for more practical endeavors. She says, “My daughter and her friends love to bake so I’ll really enjoy seeing them use this space to create some amazing confections!”

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