

Less is More

A Minimalistic Lifestyle For a Fuller Life

By Alana Willis



"My dogs' favorite spot is under the island", says homeowner Merry Kaminsky. (shown posing with one of her Golden Retrievers)



Gleaming white countertops and cabinets contrast beautifully against the gold pendant lighting and the island, painted in Benjamin Moore's Gentleman's grey.



Sometimes in life it's important to stop, take a look around, and decide what's most important to you. Merry and Andy Kaminsky did just that and decided to leave their large Castle Rock home for a leap of faith on a more minimalist, downsized lifestyle.

The sparsely-decorated, open concept kitchen in Washington Park encompasses their desire to keep focus on what matters most to them: cooking, entertaining, and connecting while keeping noise and clutter to the barest of minimums. The Kaminskys'

new, contemporary farmhouse-style kitchen blends perfectly with the clean, practical lines that make up the rest of their new home, a tangible representation of their newfound, back-to-basics approach to living.

The Kaminskys discovered their Wash Park new build when they were driving down the street one day and saw the "For Sale" sign and happened to even meet the builder, Evan Cunningham, of EJC Construction Company, who gave them a tour. They then put their existing home on the market as quickly as possible, and began downsizing their lives, selling household items no longer needed. "It was our desire





to find a home, a new build in Washington Park that fit in with the style of the neighborhood,” says Merry of their fortuitous find. “Our primary focus was a home with an open-concept kitchen and entertaining area.”

Their Castle Rock property sold in just ten days, which further proved to the Kaminskys that it was meant to be. Merry and Andy now enjoy the close proximity to downtown Denver, and love being within walking distance to the park. “We feel fortunate that we

found this home during the final construction phase. Upon meeting Evan, we immediately knew that he would be someone we could work with and the house had everything we were looking for,” says Andy of the chance encounter.

One look at the austere elegance of the Kaminskys’ kitchen is all it takes to know what the couple had in mind when they decided to leave the suburban sprawl: the whitewashed, gleaming appearance of



An impressive 36-inch, 6 burner pro gas range by Viking (pictured above), is the perfect choice for the Kaminkys, who love to cook.



“We’re also looking forward to utilizing the big island for entertaining.”

the space is reminiscent of an Apple store, with its deliberate, stylized functionality that creates a place for everything while keeping everything in-its-place. Despite, or perhaps because of, the stark minimalism of the Kaminskys’ kitchen, a timeless feeling of warmth permeates the space.

Gleaming white Misterio Pental Quartz countertops chosen for their low-maintenance durability sit atop maple cabinets (by Burns Custom Cabinetry) tinted with Benjamin Moore lacquer finishes – Gentleman’s Gray for the island and Super White for the rest of the kitchen. The hot-white brilliance of the countertops and cabinets fuses nicely with white oak oil-rubbed flooring. A ceramic subway tile backsplash ties it all together for a uniform, white-on-white appearance made interesting by the various textures and materials represented in

the kitchen area.

Gold accents in the pendant lighting add unexpected warmth to the space. The kitchen island, which was designed to be half table, half farmhouse sink and workspace, is the ideal place to chat over coffee, hold conversations while preparing a meal, or eat a quick breakfast together before starting the day. The open space transitions effortlessly into the family room, creating a welcoming place to host family gatherings, casual get-togethers, and even elaborate dinner parties. “We love to cook and grill,” says Merry. “It’s extremely convenient that the outside cooking area is so close to the kitchen. We’re also looking forward to utilizing the big island for entertaining.”

Merry and Andy chose stainless Viking appliances for their reputation of quality and high performance,



and they hold court in the kitchen. As avid cooking and grilling enthusiasts, it was important to Merry and Andy that their kitchen appliances were professional grade. “Invest in a high-tech convection microwave,” Merry advises anyone who is considering a kitchen remodel, adding, “It’s extremely nice to be able to cook sweet potatoes in eight minutes!”

The Kaminskys’ Wash Park home is living proof that *less is more*.

Appliances by



Evan Cunningham’s passion for building beautiful structures and his meticulous eye for detail are traits inherited from a long line of construction professionals. Evan differentiates himself from other general contractors by his ability to demystify the construction process and by giving excellent customer service. Completing projects on time, on budget, and with a happy client is his only metric for success.



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