

A scenic outdoor setting featuring a hammock strung over a body of water, surrounded by lush greenery and flowers. The hammock is decorated with a white lace-trimmed blanket and a pink floral patterned blanket. In the foreground, there is a white ceramic pitcher with flowers, a basket of bread, and a small table with a glass dome. The word "Spring" is written in a cursive font over the grass.

# *the* cottage *journal*

Charming  
Retreats  
& Gardens

Spring





# ADDING SPACE *without* SUBTRACTING CHARM

For this new kitchen and dining area, the addition is more than equal to the sum of its parts.

TEXT BY ANN ZIMMERMAN • PHOTOGRAPHY BY SCOT ZIMMERMAN





There are trade-offs when opting for a charming pre-war cottage on a spacious lot in a quiet neighborhood, such as the dated kitchens that often accompany quaint homes. The solution for this outdated space was a remodel and addition, and it added pleasing and practical space to the rear of the home with views to the back garden. The open and connected living spaces and modern appliances are just what many look for in a new home.

The carefully executed addition ties the new in with the vintage. The open area achieves an appearance and scale of smaller rooms with the use of pillars, a half wall, varying ceiling treatments, light fixtures,

and window placement. The stile and rail paneling on the half wall and kitchen island, the footed cabinets, the pillars' classic capitals, and the tongue-and-groove ceiling in the kitchen are all seamlessly blended with the classic style of the rest of the home. The hardware in a mix and match style and the farmhouse apron sink continue the vintage vibe.

By necessity, the windows are all to the rear of the home, and the use of white and sparkling glass-fronted cabinets along the wall without windows makes the room bright. The island is painted a soft blue-gray for contrast that isn't too dark, and the pantry area is situated by the entry to the mudroom

for conveniently putting away groceries. Instead of one big pantry, there are numerous floor-to-ceiling cabinets with a granite work surface.

The dining area is conveniently located near the kitchen with views through French doors to the garden, and across the half wall is an informal sitting area. The family wanted a kitchen and dining area that felt sized right for a couple but would be able to accommodate the extended family. The addition also includes a new mudroom at the rear side entry with built-in custom cabinetry elegant enough to be used by guests and practical enough for the family gardener. ■



The custom kitchen features hidden practical additions to make the beautiful space highly functional. To each side of the range hood are convenient spice cabinets, and the microwave is built into the kitchen island, making it handy but out of sight from the dining area. Also hidden and within reach from the sink is a pullout trash and recycling can hidden by a cabinet front.

