

Katherine Lynn

Uses a Viking gas cooktop with a rear downdraft to preserve an unobstructed view in this stunning Albuquerque kitchen



PHOTO BY DIGITAL DREAMS

A spectacular contemporary house in Albuquerque, New Mexico sits on a bluff with a totally unobstructed view of the Sandia Mountains. Every element in its design, from the ceiling down, was carefully selected to preserve the lines of sight. In the gourmet Viking kitchen, one product was particularly important in achieving this goal: a 36"W. rear downdraft.

The east side of the house is all glass, installed to make the outside move inside, explains interior designer Katherine Lynn, owner of Juniper Ridge Designs, LLC. "I didn't want to have a hood hanging down over the 36"W. gas cooktop because it would have obstructed the view from the kitchen," she says. "The Viking rear downdraft option was really important."

"I try to use Viking appliances in everything I design," says Lynn, who's been involved in the kitchen and bath industry for more than three decades.

In addition to their exceptional performance and craftsmanship, Lynn says Viking appliances offer an outstanding range of design options.

The 388-square-foot kitchen in the Albuquerque house features Wood-Mode Brookhaven cabinetry in maple and stainless steel from Santa Fe-based Kitchens by Jeanné. Some of the upper level cabinets have ribbed glass fronts and interior lighting. The striking countertops feature savannah granite. "They're very exotic," says Lynn. "The granite looks like a topographic map

of Africa, and it has lots of yellows, oranges, and grays."

The Graphite Gray Viking Designer Series was perfect for this color scheme, she adds. "It melted into the whole scene."

Born in Dundee, Illinois, Lynn comes from a multi-generational woodworking family. Her grandfather was superintendent for Rinehimer Brothers, an Elgin, Illinois millwork and manufacturing company, and her father apprenticed with him. Her uncle worked for St. Charles Cabinetry.

Her father eventually opened his own cabinet shop, which he moved to New Mexico in 1968. Lynn, an only child, began working for her father in 1978. "Working at his cabinet shop was my apprentice program; before I could use the machines, I had to go out and pound nails on-site," she says. "It was hard work and not many women were doing that kind of work 30 years ago."

When her father retired in 1991, Lynn opened Juniper Ridge Designs. A member of the American Society of Interior Designers (ASID) and National Kitchen & Bath



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Association (NKBA), she works from a home office in Placitas, a short commute from Albuquerque. Lynn also maintains a presence at Eric Spurlock, LLC in Albuquerque. She keeps samples and brochures in his closet and uses the award-winning designer's conference room to meet with clients.

Lynn works closely with Jason Rogers, a Viking representative for SunWest Appliance Distributing in Tempe, Arizona. "He's fabulous!" she says. "During an open house, Jason came and brought one of the portable induction cookers recently introduced by Viking and made chocolate-covered strawberries for visitors."

She also praises Kristi Ludenia, a SunWest design representative. "Kristi and Jason are very helpful and they take really good care of us," says Lynn. Additionally, she appre-

ciates the opportunities SunWest offers designers and their clients to "take Viking for a test drive" during one of its regularly scheduled cooking demonstrations, noting that she recently attended one on outdoor cooking techniques.

This fall, Lynn is traveling to Greenwood, Mississippi to visit the Viking corporate headquarters, where she'll tour the manufacturing plant and design center, as well as be inspired by the luxurious lifestyle opportunities provided by the Viking Hospitality Group.

Lynn and her husband are currently building a new home in Placitas and she says it will have a total Viking package. Lynn recently accepted a position as a Habersham home representative, and is excited about working with another woman-owned company, as well as the fact that

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 Designer Side-by-Side Refrigerator/Freezer with Ice and Water Dispenser DDSB423D-GG
 Designer Dishwasher DFUD042-GG/DTD24-GG
 Designer Beverage Center DUAR141F-L-SS
 Designer Beverage Center DUAR151F-L-SS

hers will be the first Habersham home in New Mexico.

In addition to her design work, Lynn trains horses and participates in dressage competitions. She also loves to cook and entertain and is looking forward to using her skills in an all-Viking kitchen when her new home is completed.