

Beautiful
**KITCHENS
& BATHS**

**20 Trends
That Are Here
To Stay**

**How to Choose
And Use Marble** p.116

***Fearless Color:
Go Bold Without Regrets*** p.9



Designed to comfortably handle a crowd, Kerith and Stephen Flynn's remodeled kitchen boasts plentiful panache, a charmingly outfitted eating area, a function-packed perimeter, and two islands.

Great Expansion

An interior designer opens up several rooms to fashion an expansive, efficient, and elegant gathering space.

BY ANN WILSON | PHOTOS MICHAEL PARTENIO
FIELD EDITOR ANNA MOLVIK



“As an interior designer, it was great fun to finally be able to do my own house.”

Kerith Flynn
designer

Left: The stainless-steel farmhouse sink, which doubles as an ice-holding area during parties, presents a vintage form rendered in a modern metal. **Opposite:** Traditional paneled woodwork repeats throughout the kitchen; the panel details combine with weighty crown moldings in a stately custom range hood for a seamless look. The six-burner cooktop adds modern convenience.

More of everything—that’s what interior designer Kerith Flynn and her husband, Stephen, had in mind when they embarked on a gut remodel of the kitchen in their Manhasset, New York, home. And that’s just what they got. With thoughtful planning, the couple gained more efficient work areas, extra entertaining space, better traffic flow, and copious company’s-coming comforts. Most important, the now-open 20x29-foot space gave Kerith myriad opportunities for applying her artistic talents.

Kerith worked with Christine Ranieri, her partner in Margali & Flynn Designs, to remodel the 1990s home and create a more hospitable hub that encourages the Flynn’s three children, extended family members, and friends of all ages to congregate and stay for a while.

The plan called for knocking down walls that separated the original kitchen, dining area, and step-down family room; raising the family room

floor to create an eating area at the same level as the kitchen; and designing an adjoining family room addition for a spacious great-room feel. “Once we opened up the space, the kitchen became the biggest room in our 3,000-square-foot house,” Kerith says with a grin, “which is perfect because the kitchen is always where everyone wants to hang out.”

It’s not just the kitchen’s size that guarantees full occupancy. Kerith’s design lures visitors in, prompting them to take a seat at the banquette or rest an elbow on one of two islands. “We entertain a lot, so the kitchen needed to be both elegant and casual, to be a space that made people say, ‘Let’s sit down here,’” Kerith says. “I wanted it to feel beautiful, but with a relaxed feel.”

The room’s beauty comes from an imaginative fusing of the transitional elements Kerith loves with traditional details that suit the home’s Colonial architecture. “The new kitchen



 **Double Island Designs**

Visit DIG.com/TwoIslands for stylish ideas and smart layouts that maximize function in a kitchen with two islands.



Above: Glass cabinet doors with X muntins balance the visual weight of the kitchen's substantial woodwork. A backsplash of marble mosaic tiles adds textural interest and subtle pattern without disrupting the room's calming ambience. **Right:** Double ovens and a large refrigerator accommodate the needs of a hospitable couple who entertain often and host large holiday dinners. **Opposite:** Tapping every opportunity for convenience, the homeowners included a polished-chrome pot filler at the cooktop.

works with the house while still feeling a bit contemporary but not overly modern," says Kerith, who points to Calacatta marble countertops, dark-stained floors, and glossy white cabinets and woodwork as classic components that harmoniously partner with modish brown quartz-surfacing, patterned cabinet doors, and geometric backsplash tiles.

Color tiptoes quietly into the mostly white space, appearing as neutral textiles and metallic accents. The understated palette, finely formed furniture, and modern metals unite to generate a fresh take on timeless.

The Flymms couldn't be happier with the remodeled kitchen. There's ample space for the kids and their pals to relax with snacks; Stephen has everything he needs to prepare huge holiday meals; and the layout easily encourages mingling during charity events.

"As an interior designer, it was great fun to finally be able to do my own house," Kerith says. "The kitchen is beautiful. We love it because it's a space that's so easy to be in."

RESOURCES BEGIN ON PAGE 122

