



Designer FYI

By Kris Linder

Small bump — big difference

HOW TO GET MORE BANG FOR YOUR REMODEL BUCK

Look at the before and after pictures on this page and consider that this remodel moved an outside wall 3 feet, raised the ceiling 2 1/2 feet and opened up an interior wall. These relatively minor adjustments resulted in a fabulous new kitchen that feels twice as big as the original. How can 3 feet get you this much space? That's the magic of good interior design.

In this case the clients had a small, dark walk-through kitchen with only one window and a very small pantry and laundry room. We opened up the space and reconfigured the work areas. The old laundry became a handsome walk-in butler's pantry and the new, stacked washer and dryer moved to a hall closet next to the kitchen. The 3-foot bump on the driveway side of the house allowed for enough room to add a 3-by-6-foot center island. Opening the wall between the kitchen and living room allowed for a roomy, eat-in bar next to the dining room that facilitates conversation between the cook and his or her guests.

This designer believes that raising a room's ceiling should always be a consideration in a remodel — the new architectural interest combined with the feeling of spaciousness it brings is more than worth the money. Additional windows also create visual space. The bright new kitchen now has four windows and two skylights. New windows can become important architectural features that add to the value of a house.

This formerly cramped kitchen now comfortably houses two dishwashers, two sinks (a large stone farm sink and a smaller copper prep sink), a large Viking range, an island with a warming drawer, a showcase pantry, a large Viking refrigerator, a hidden plasma TV and lots of light and space. As the clients say — it's a miracle! 🏠

Interior Design Source owner Kris Linder consults, designs, remodels and provides interior furnishings for a large segment of Silicon Valley. Call her at 408.395.4028 or visit www.interior-design-source.com.



ABOVE: The clients' original kitchen. **RIGHT:** The remodeled kitchen with reconfigured work spaces. Although a wall was pushed out just 3 feet, it allowed for a roomy center island and professional range.



Photo by Kerry Paul