

# Dutch Treat

Inspiration can come from many unusual places. For this New Jersey homeowner and interior designer, inspiration for her kitchen originated from a love of Dutch antiques. The remodeled space shows off warm maple cabinetry and old-world details that complement the 1920s French Normandy home in which it resides. But its distinctive Dutch-inspired details give it a personality all its own.

Throughout the kitchen, distressed maple cabinetry—glazed darker in the corners and crevices to add instant age—imbues the cooking space with warmth. Focal-point components are carefully styled to look like freestanding furniture pieces, enhancing the kitchen's European appearance and evolved-over-time look. A single wood tone and coordinating hardware help unify the room's various decorative elements.

The homeowner's Dutch antiques provided a wealth of inspiration for the kitchen's principal furniture pieces. The armoire that houses the new side-by-side refrigerators is modeled after a Dutch form called a kass. Its bonnet top, bun feet, recessed-panel doors, and oiled-bronze hardware create authentic



**OPPOSITE:** A recessed limestone mantle adds authentic character above the black-enamel range.

**THIS PHOTO:** In the cleanup zone, a mix of rectangular and rounded inset panels in the drawers creates a custom look.



Glazed maple cabinets throughout this New Jersey kitchen and adjoining pantry are designed to mimic antique Dutch furniture.





**ABOVE, FROM LEFT:** Curvy pilasters and bracket feet dress up a breakfront-style cabinet that holds the cleanup sink.

A reclaimed heart pine inlay gently interrupts the Bourgogne stone tile floor.

Even the slotted vents in the refrigerator armoire are maple.

Zinc tops the island and forms the sides of its integrated sink.

**OPPOSITE:** A microwave oven and window seat tuck into a corner beside the refrigerator, in space absorbed from a former mudroom.

charm. To completely conceal the modern amenity, kitchen designer Bob Schwartz worked closely with the appliance manufacturer to ensure that even the vents were maple.

On the opposite side of the room, a custom pantry references both Dutch and English design and showcases coffered doors, hand-forged strap hinges, and barley-twist legs. The elaborate piece holds baking supplies within close proximity to the island work zone.

The range area, although equipped with a new black-enamel range, shows off historical inspiration as well. Here, a dignified limestone mantel is designed to mimic historical homes where the stove sits in an old fireplace niche. Its sophisticated design subtly adds to the room's traditional character without competing for attention with the free-standing furniture elements.

Surfaces throughout the room add yet another layer of interest and help distinguish the kitchen's various work zones. Inca stone, a material similar to soap-

stone, brings a classic look to perimeter countertops, while zinc adds a soft shine to the island's top. A softer metal than stainless steel, zinc develops a patina with age and shows off small dents and scratches that enhance its aged appearance. On the floor, Bourgogne stone in an array of earthy hues is laid in a classic herringbone pattern. A wood inlay around the island echoes the ceiling beams, which are reclaimed heart pine from a Florida river. Reproduction Arts and Crafts tiles bring authentic flair and subtle color to the kitchen's backsplash areas, reappearing in niches above the apron-front sink and range, as well as in the adjoining pantry.

Amidst the room's old-world warmth, the kitchen offers many modern-day features, such as a pot-filler faucet, an integrated sink, and a meal-planning station. But these modern amenities are well-hidden within a design that celebrates the past.

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