

COLORADO HOMES

& LIFESTYLES

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The Kitchen Issue

+ 47 PAGES OF KITCHENS,
APPLIANCES, TIPS,
GADGETS & GOODS

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PRO TIP

“My go-to design tip: Design with joy. Find opportunities for whimsy and for areas that can change with the seasons.”

— ARCHITECT DANA ELLIS

Leading with Happy

“THIS KITCHEN IS THE DEFINITION of family style,” architect Dana Ellis says of this Carbondale hearth. “[It’s] not defined in a traditional way. The design inspiration was an old farmhouse with low ceilings and cozy, human-scaled spaces for gathering.” White-painted custom cabinets by Benchcraft Custom Woodwork and Ceasarstone countertops in fresh concrete are warmed by a variety of wood finishes: rustic oak flooring underfoot, reclaimed Douglas fir beams overhead and reclaimed oak open shelving hung on plaster walls painted with Benjamin Moore’s China White. Stainless-steel appliances and a backsplash connecting the range and hood add a dash of industrial sheen. “The stainless-steel backsplash functions perfectly for the well-used kitchen and the couple, who enjoy cooking and entertaining,” Ellis says.

Accessories and furnishings feel timeworn and handmade against the sleek, simple lines of the workspace. The kitchen’s pendant lights and the dining area’s twin chandeliers were chosen, Ellis explains, for their shape. “The round edges are a counterpoint to a home that is extremely linear,” she says. The bar stools—functional modern art pieces—are one-of-a-kinds crafted for the family. The dining table is a family heirloom. “These items all speak to the homeowners’ appreciation for handcrafted items,” Ellis says.

The couple, she says, love to entertain and have grown sons who spend a lot of time at the home. “The kitchen layout,” she explains, “allows for numerous clusters of activity to happen at once.” Just what it was designed for. “It is open, inviting, and centered around the concepts of sharing and connection.”

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CUSTOM CABINETRY: Benchcraft Custom Woodwork, benchcraft.net