



THE KESSARA KITCHEN

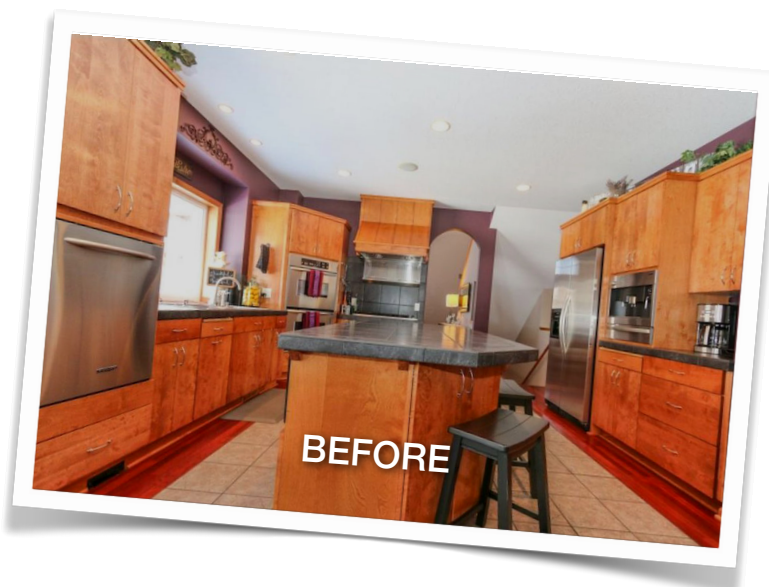
KEY FEATURES:

- *Integrated pantry storage*
- *Expanded counter space*
- *Island seating with flow*
- *Light and bright palette*
- *Layered lighting design*
- *Walnut and black cabinetry accents*
- *Dedicated beverage station*



Client's Dream

"Our kitchen feels dark and uninviting. While the space is large, the layout and limited counter areas make meal prep and cleanup a challenge. We want a bright, welcoming, and thoughtfully designed kitchen that makes the most of every inch. Cooking and baking together as a family is precious to us, and we want a space that nurtures these moments. Our dream is a kitchen that says: 'Welcome home – now, let's dance!'"



Let's Get Fresh!

The homeowners knew their kitchen had long passed its “best by” date. But unlike a sour gallon of milk you can toss without regret, replacing a worn-out kitchen takes careful planning, vision, and creative solutions. The original footprint was awkward, the walls were crowded with passageways, and the budget ruled out major expansion. Within these constraints, every inch of space had to work harder, smarter, and more beautifully.

Balancing Wish Lists And Realities

The challenge was clear: fit must-have functionality and the homeowners’ dream features into a kitchen that resisted easy solutions. With so little uninterrupted wall space and an odd layout, circulation and storage were at a premium. To provide island seating without blocking pathways, low-back stools were chosen — comfortable during family meals and gatherings, but able to tuck neatly out of the way to keep traffic flowing. Each design move became a balancing act between desire and practicality.



Banishing The Shadows

The old kitchen was heavy with dark tile counters, maroon walls, worn tile flooring, and cherry-stained maple cabinetry layered against a border of deep red Brazilian cherry floors. The effect was oppressive, out of sync with the homeowners' vibrant personalities and their vision of lively gatherings. They longed for a space that felt fresh, open, and full of light.



The solution: a brighter palette and strategic lighting. White quartz countertops, soft white walls, and a subtly patterned backsplash bounce light throughout, while pendants, undercabinet LEDs, and recessed fixtures erased dark corners. Walnut cabinetry grounds the design with warmth, accented by strong black details that add depth and contrast.





Pantry, Please

Before, the mudroom had doubled as the pantry, forcing repeated trips back and forth during meal prep. To simplify daily life, food storage was relocated into the heart of the kitchen. A floor-to-ceiling pantry with full-extension pull-out drawers now sits between two integrated Thermador refrigerator and freezer columns, forming a highly functional storage hub. An undercounter refrigerator at the beverage station expanded capacity and gave family and guests a convenient spot to grab drinks without interrupting the cook's flow.

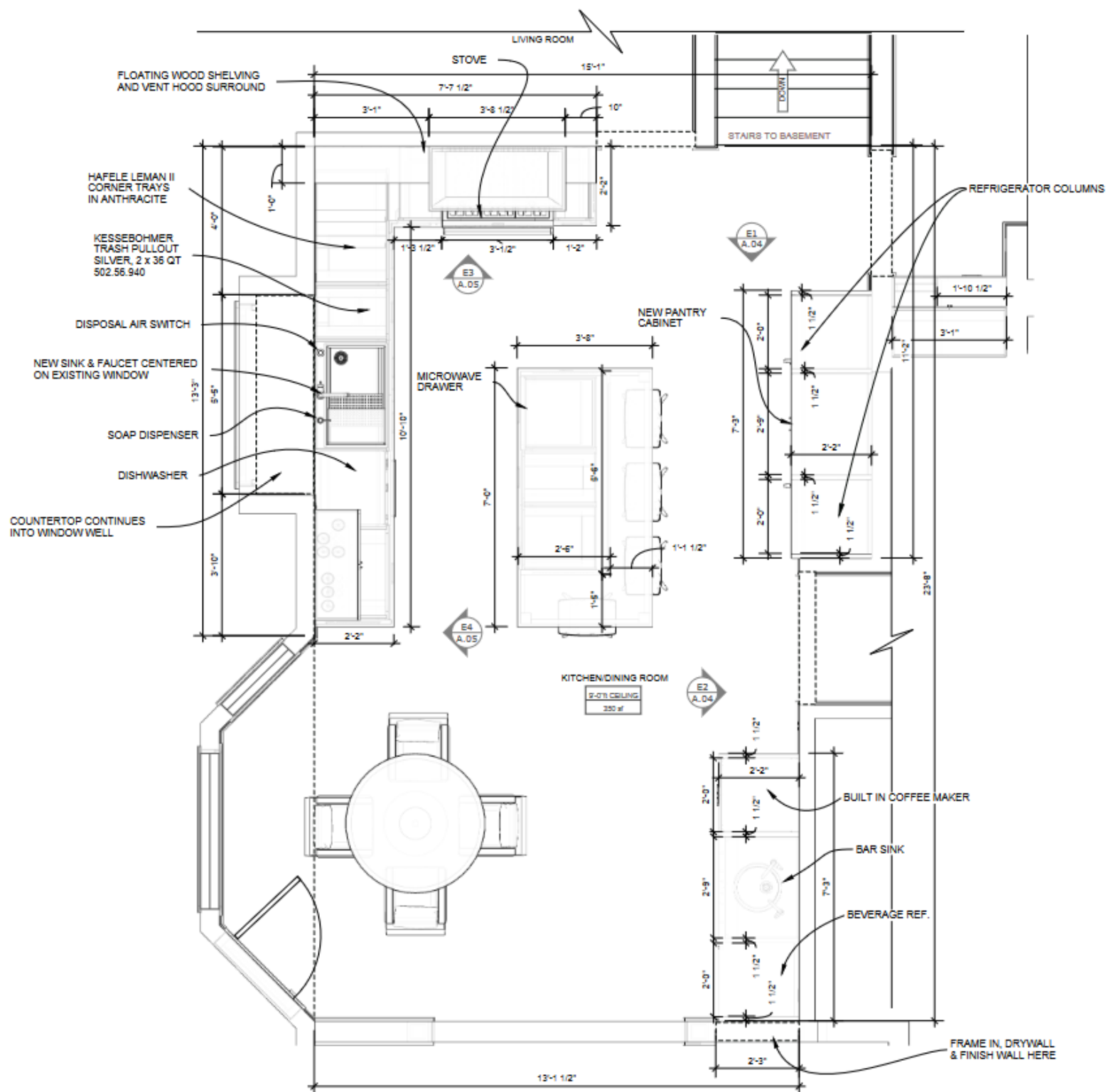


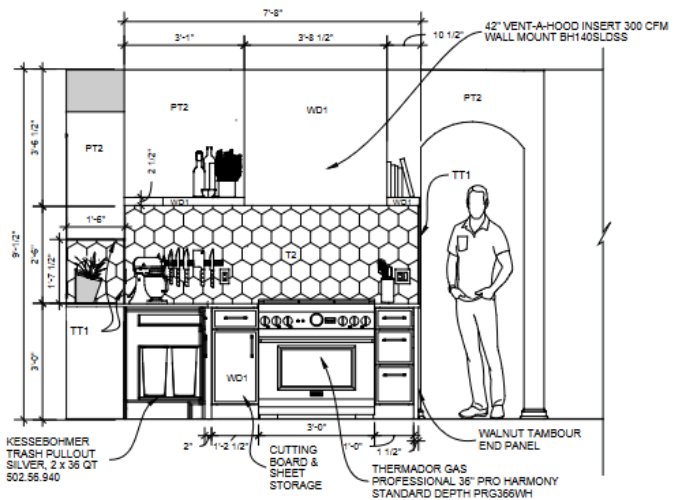
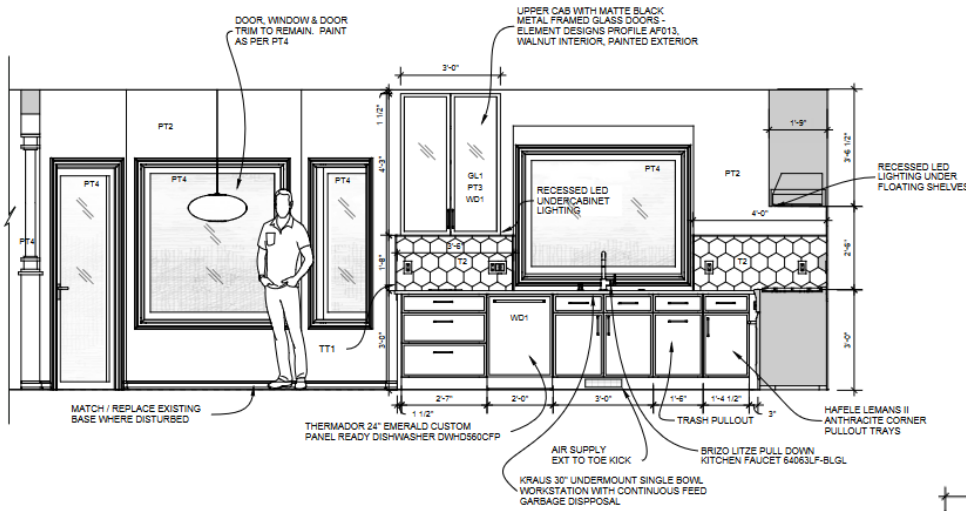
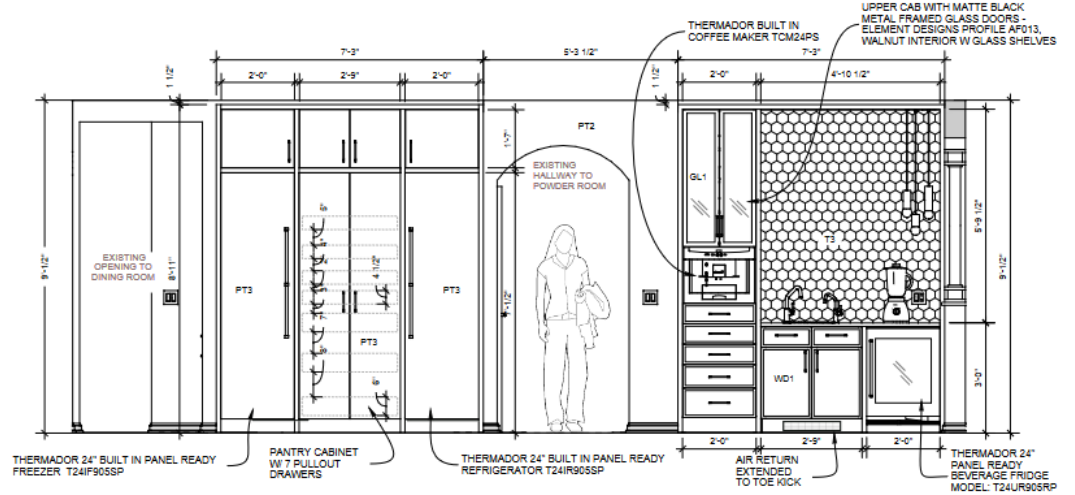
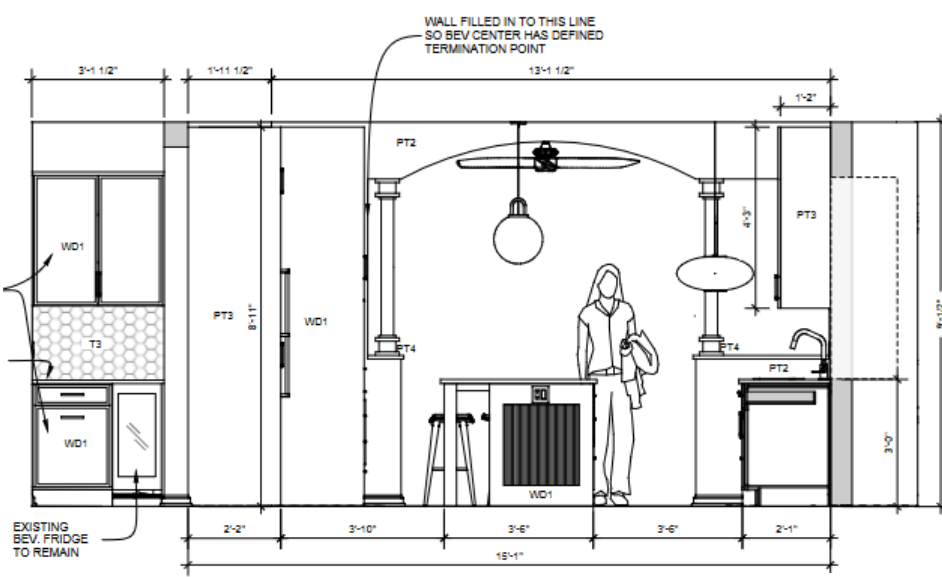


Countering The Tile Tyranny

Anyone who has prepped a meal on tiled counters knows the real frustration isn't chopping vegetables — it's scrubbing those grout-line *food goo grabbers* after every meal. For these homeowners, replacing them with sleek quartz countertops wasn't just an upgrade — it was liberation. More counter surfaces were added where they mattered most, replacing the stingy 6-inch strip beside the range and expanding prep space around the sink.

The backsplash became a study in contrast. In the main kitchen, geometric tile with matching grout created a soft, seamless backdrop — subtle enough to calm the space while adding quiet visual intrigue. At the beverage center, however, a bold marble-and-brass mosaic announced itself with celebratory flair, reflecting the festive spirit of toasting, mixing, and gathering.







A Kitchen Reborn

By weaving together the homeowners' needs, wants, and threads of joy, the design transformed a dark, dated room into a bright, welcoming hub of hospitality. Contemporary, modern, and Scandinavian touches mingle with timeless warmth, creating not just a place to cook, but a stage for connection, celebration, and everyday life well lived.

"Seeing the finished kitchen is like witnessing a masterpiece come to life. It's more than just a renovation; it's a realization of our dreams. Every element, every touch, fits us perfectly and speaks to our hearts, making this space truly our own."

- Homeowners

