A Fresh Face

Jane Lockhart inspires us with 10 delicious design ideas for a low-budget, high-style kitchen.

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Winner of the Best Large Kitchen Award and the Pinnacle of Design Award at the 2010 National Kitchen and Bath Association's Canadian Design Competition, Jane Lockhart of Jane Lockhart Interior Design shows us that beautiful kitchens don't always require big budgets. Case in point: Jane's simple design solutions dramatically changed the look and

BEFORE

function of this basic galley-style kitchen. "It had good bones - the flooring, cabinets and countertops were in good condition – so we saved money by keeping what we could and simply designing around them," says Jane. Here's how Jane created these stunning results. And the best part is that most of it was achieved with just a bit of paint. »

A sculptural brass and glass chandelier becomes a feature in the room and drops down into the space, providing a more directional light source over the island.

The dated oak cabinets were sanded, primed with Benjamin Moore Fresh Start High Adhesion Primer and then painted with two coats of Benjamin Moore Simply White OC 117, a latex paint in a pearl sheen finish.

Walls were freshened up with Benjamin Moore Ocean Air 2123-50 in Latex Eggshell, which beautifully complements the black floor tiles and countertops.



A large blackboard made from a Masonite sheet framed with door casing and painted with Benjamin Moore's blackboard paint makes a pretty message board - a quick and easy DIY project.

To highlight the original glassdoor cabinets, the interiors were painted in Benjamin Moore Gossamer Blue 2123-40.

A light valance was added to the cabinets to conceal the undercabinet lighting that illuminates the glass backsplash and countertops.

Two custom floating shelves added to the end of the kitchen cabinets offer storage for cookbooks and colourful accessories. (For an inexpensive option, check out Ikea's Lack floating shelves.)





JANE'S FAVOURITE KITCHEN COLOURS

I love these soft, light colours on a kitchen wall. They create a stunning backdrop for stainless steel and white or rich wood cabinetry.



Benjamin Moore Mount Saint Anne 1565: A soft blue-grey that looks fabulous with white cabinets.



For shopping information, see page 210.

Dulux Highland Plains 41-175: A deep neutral that beautifully sets off white or dark-stained cabinets.



Farrow and Ball String 8: A light neutral that's stunning with white, or with medium- or dark-stained cabinets.

COLOUR PERFECT

Want to replicate a colour from upholstery, a blouse or an image in a magazine? Take a sample to your local paint store and ask them to colour match it to your favorite brand of paint. Most paint stores have the latest technology that will give you instant results at no charge.



JANE'S TOP SIX KITCHEN IMPROVEMENTS

- 1. Install as many drawers as you can. They'll provide better overall storage than upper cabinets.
- 2. If budget allows, add more lighting options, such as recessed halogen pot lights and undercabinet lighting to improve the look and function of the kitchen. Put them on independent light switches and dimmers to save energy and create multiple lighting options.
- 3. When replacing cabinets, consider deeper upper cabinets to accommodate larger plates and platters. Choose a 13- to 15-inch depth over the standard 12-inch depth.

- 4. To breathe new life into an old kitchen without renovating, try changing the wall colour. A dramatic deep colour will really improve the look of light colour cabinets.
- 5. When buying a new kitchen sink, opt for a deeper nine- or 10-inch model. The average depth is seven to eight inches.
- **6.** Adding glass doors to some of the upper cabinets gives a small kitchen a lighter, more expansive look.

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