

1 Cool hues

Sessions chose white-oak floors in a nontoxic stain called "Salty Biscuit." A touch of blue adds interest to gray cabinetry.

2 Fine dining

Instead of using the countertop as a breakfast bar, Sessions designed this banquette. Faux leather from Designs by Sudi (designsbysudi.com) scores high for comfort and durability.

3 Hoodwinked

Reversing the trend of vent hoods that scream, "Look at me," this wooden one is understated but clever, with niches on either side.

4 Time to shine

The cozy kitchen setup led to one knockout chandelier rather than typical pendants. This beaded number from Currey & Company (curreyandcompany.com) makes a stately focal point.

5 Old ideas

An antique table brings a warm patina to the seating area, and vintage chairs with a mid-century vibe were recovered in a lively Zak + Fox fabric (zakandfox.com) to keep the look fresh.

ROOMENVY

Good Taste

Bravo to kitchens that function well—without a predictable recipe of ingredients. For a clean look, builder and designer Pam Sessions located the refrigerator and small appliances in an adjacent pantry and forewent the ubiquitous barstools for a luxurious banquette. —LISAMOWRY

TIP Marry style and function with mounted pot racks. "I think hanging pots and pans sends the message that this is a working kitchen but still looks great," says Sessions, who rents out this home through her boutique rental company, Hedgewood Stay (hedgewoodhomes.com).