

**IN THE DETAILS**

- ◆ **ISLAND** Landis added an island at a 90-degree angle from the old location of the peninsula. It has an attached table top at the end for dining. "Eliminating the bulky peninsula really helped the floor plan; the island separates the work triangle from the eating area of the kitchen," he says.
- ◆ **CABINETS** Glazed maple cabinets with raised-panel doors give the homeowners the warmer and more elegant look they wanted. "The cabinets are fully accessorized inside to match their needs," says Landis. "We worked to maximize the space they had."
- ◆ **COUNTERTOPS** The rich black quartz composite countertops with gray flecks are an attractive upgrade from the white laminate counters.
- ◆ **FLOORS** A mishmash of laminate, parquet and green slate was replaced with 3/4-inch-thick oak planks to get rid of the hodgepodge look.

## 2 traditional beauty

Besides a bland all-white look, the 260-square-foot kitchen in this two-level home located in the Columbus, Ohio, suburb of Upper Arlington presented another big problem: a very difficult layout. "The kitchen had been remodeled, but not for a while," says Ron Landis, president of R.J. Landis Design & Construction in nearby Worthington. "It was just too small and cramped, with a peninsula that had a soffit and hanging cabinets that blocked views and visually cut the kitchen off from the adjacent eating and seating area." The placement of the appliances—the kitchen's refrigerator was right next to the wall ovens—was another concern. The owners, a professional couple, wanted to improve the layout and give the kitchen a more traditional look that better suits their Colonial-style home.

**BEFORE:** The old kitchen looked dated and was cut off from the dining area by an awkward peninsula.

**AFTER:** Relocating the appliances and adding rich details like a tumbled marble tile backsplash with tile inserts helped transform the space.

