Island Flavor

Christine Nelson
Guyer's Builder Supply
Apple Valley

FIRST PLACE: MEDIUM KITCHEN
(Between 35 and 50 square feet of countertops)

Christine Nelson created a Mediterranean-flavored kitchen by imbuing this Minneapolis home with vibrant colors in unexpected places—a range in cobalt blue, for example, and a custom tile backsplash in oceanic and citrus tones. Black granite countertops and white painted woodwork offer dramatic contrast.

The original space was narrow and dark. Nelson moved the kitchen into an underutilized room and added an outdoor entry, making alfresco dining effortless. The adjacent, old kitchen morphed into a much-needed mudroom with a closet nestled into an alcove previously occupied by the refrigerator. Additionally, Nelson moved the entrance to the powder room to provide easy access to the mudroom while freeing up more space for kitchen counters. Now the kitchen is functional, as well as dazzling to the eye.

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