



New Look

Acclaim Renovations & Design — powered by One Man And A Hammer

As is the case with many older homes, Bob Gallese's clients' house in Painesville had a choppy, room-by-room layout that left them longing for the open floor plan that is so prevalent in home design today. "They love the open room concept that would let them entertain — or just hang out together — in the kitchen and dining area, but still be a part of the action in the family room," explains Gallese, owner of Acclaim Renovations & Design. "In this case, we knew it would involve a lot of clearing out walls." The goal was to turn a separated kitchen and dining room into a large, eat-in kitchen that flowed to the family room.

14

There are always challenges when walls are removed. In this case, Gallese and his crew had to do standard things like move and re-route the ductwork and electric wiring, but they also added a support beam. "We do a lot of planning ahead so we don't run into unforeseen problems," says Gallese. They also had to carefully work around a trayed ceiling in the dining room — keeping it intact while designing it to flow into the kitchen, which did not have a trayed ceiling. "When you're opening up rooms and creating flow, consistency is key," he says. To that end, the flooring also had to be changed so it would match from room to room.

The kitchen has a whole new look, with brand-new, painted maple cabinets in an off-white hue — the ones on the exterior of the



room have recessed door panels, while the cabinets on the island are the same color, but have recessed bead board for a contrasting yet complementary look. Granite countertops, a tiled backsplash and new stainless appliances finish a stunning design.

What was the dining room is taken up almost entirely by the show-stopping center island gracing the entire space, which starts in the kitchen and continues, wrapping around, into the room. "It's simply gorgeous," Gallese says. The island is just huge — about 18 feet

long — and it starts in the kitchen and ends in what was the dining room, offering the owners a grand surface for cooking, baking, entertaining and eating. The cabinetry houses a drawer-style microwave and wine refrigerator. It's the main thing you notice about the room and the most used, most functional part of the redesign. "It actually makes you stop and take notice when you walk in the room," he says. — KF

Nuts and Bolts

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Kitchen Remodel

