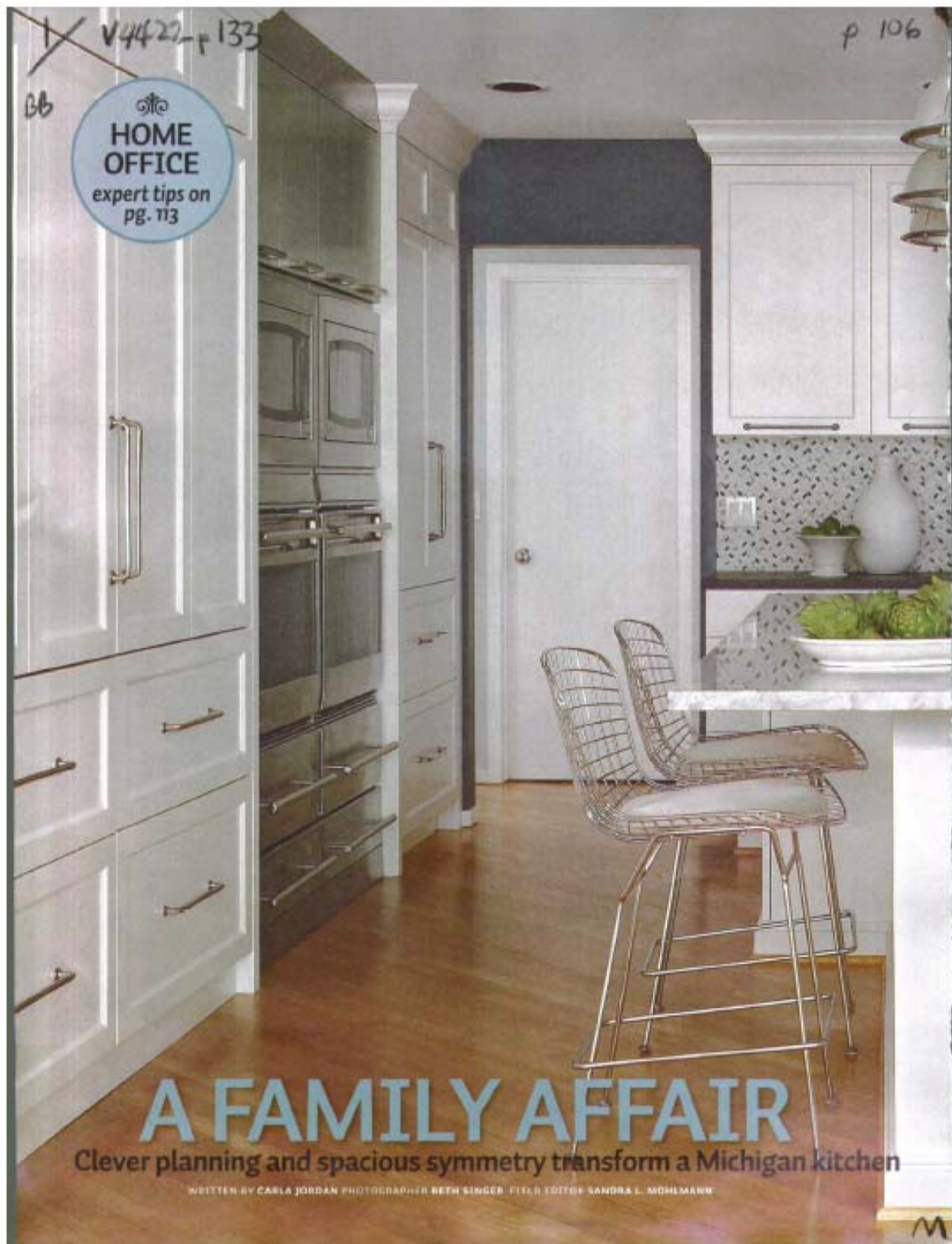


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HOME OFFICE
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A FAMILY AFFAIR

Clever planning and spacious symmetry transform a Michigan kitchen

WRITTEN BY CARLA JORDAN PHOTOGRAPHER BEEN SINGER FIELD EDITOR SANDRA L. MOHLMANN



Crisp white paint and stainless-steel accents reflect natural light from the dining area into and around Jodi and Kevin Neff's kitchen.



into a gathering place for the entire family and a parade of friends.





Curved
cabinetry in
the range niche
maximizes storage.
The door style sets
it apart from the
rest of the
room.

The welcome mat is always out

at Jodi and Kevin Neff's house in Bloomfield Hills, Michigan. So it's no surprise when a small army of friends and family turns up on the doorstep at mealtime.

"We only have four kids—and two of them are in college—but somehow it's never just us and the kids," Jodi says. "There's always at least six to eight of us at dinner. We also have a big extended family nearby. So it's not unusual to whip up meals for as many as 30 or 40 people at once."

After six years of cramped conditions in their 413-square-foot kitchen, the Neffs decided it was time to remodel, and they turned to kitchen designer Jodi Caden for help.

Caden identified the room's two biggest problems—layout and lack of storage. "The kitchen was U-shaped with a peninsula that created a traffic bottleneck as people went in and out of the room," Caden says. "White laminate cabinetry was dated and didn't fit the family's needs. And a small desk area nearby was a tangled mess of invitations, cell phones, and the like." It soon became clear that everything had to go, which meant gutting the entire kitchen and adjoining breakfast nook.

Knowing the family's interest in cooking for a crowd, Caden created a space that was both fashionable and functional. "I realized that the Neffs really needed two of everything to meet their mealtime needs," Caden says. So there are two microwaves, two wall ovens, two warming drawers, two dishwashers, and two refrigerators.

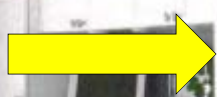
To keep the kitchen from looking like an appliance store, Caden created a single column of stainless-steel cooking appliances, and she designed



TOP: A confetti-inspired marble mosaic backsplash carries the room's color palette. ABOVE: Tucked next to the range, a pullout with a towel rack keeps linens and paper towels out of sight but within easy reach. LEFT: To get the most out of the range wall, slender pullout storage towers flank the arched niche. OPPOSITE: Adding architectural interest did not mean sacrificing storage. The range niche is outfitted with cabinetry yet still looks spacious.



Made to organize schedules and paperwork, the desk area has built-in cabinets to conceal clutter.



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HOME OFFICE basics

A desk area near the kitchen can help busy families stay on schedule. It's the perfect spot to keep calendars and to organize paperwork for paying bills—plus, it's ideal for homework. Kitchen designer Jodi Caden offers her top tips on fitting a home office into any kitchen.

1. SEPARATE THE SPACE

Placing a desk area adjacent to but not in the kitchen works well, because family members working at the desk can participate in conversations with the cook without getting in the way. Likewise, parents at work in the main kitchen area can quietly monitor homework progress and computer use at the desk. Separating the office area from the kitchen also keeps paper clutter from taking over the kitchen's main work space.

2. PLUG IT IN

Designate one drawer to house multiple cell phones, music players, and small electronics. Equipping the drawer with an electrical strip makes it easy to keep items charged and eliminates a tangled mess of cords on the desktop.

3. PLAN FOR STORAGE

Office storage units may have different dimensions than typical kitchen cabinets. If you plan to use drawers as filing cabinets or store a computer tower in a cabinet, you may need to have a custom unit designed to the items' specifications.

TIP: Maximize interior cabinet space by covering doors with corkboard for message pinup. Use drawer dividers, folders, racks, and pretty storage boxes to keep everything in place.





{72-77} MORE THAN A MELODY

Range—KitchenAid. Refrigerators—U-Line. Cabinetry—Medallion Cabinetry, Inc. Countertops Black Galaxy granite—check with a local supplier. Tile backsplash, floor—Atlas Marble & Tile, Inc. Sink—Kohl. Faucets—Kohler Co. Lighting—Rowe Lighting. Stools—All Bar stools. Spice rack—Linen 'n Things.



{78-81} SMALL BUT MIGHTY

Kitchen designers—David Jones, James Jones. Range, microwave, warming drawer—Wolf Appliance Co., LLC. Hood—Best by Broan. Refrigerator—Sub-Zero Freezer Co., Inc. Dishwasher—Miele, Inc. Cabinetry, cabinetry hardware—Poggenpohl U.S.A., Inc. Countertops Rainforest Green granite, backsplash tile—Stadium. Sinks—Blanco America, Inc. Faucets—Franke Kitchen Systems Division. Lighting—Ingo Maurer.



{82-89} DELIGHT IN WHITE

Architect—Rob Aldecoa. Interior designer—Lisa La Nasa, ASID. Range—Wolf Appliance Co., LLC. Refrigerator—Sub-Zero Freezer Co., Inc. Dishwasher—Asko. Dishwasher drawer—Fisher & Paykel Appliances, Inc. Cabinetry—Hardwood Industries, Inc. Countertops Statuary White marble—TerraZzo and Marble Supply. Backsplash tile—Waterworks. Sinks island—Rohl, prep—Ira Woods. Faucets—Rohl. Lighting—Filament Lighting. Floors kitchen—Haakenson Floors; mudroom—Tile X Design. Rug—Dash and Albert. Bar stools—Traditions.



{90-97} GREEN INSPIRED ... AND WIRED

Architect—Midori Yoshikawa. Range, range backsplash—Jenn-Air. Hood—Vent-a-Hood Co. Refrigerator—Sub-Zero Freezer Co., Inc. Dishwasher—Bosch. Wine cooler—Scotsman Ice Systems. Cabinetry—Midori Interior Design. Cabinetry hardware—Halvorsen Clay. Countertops Absolute Black honed granite—check with a local supplier, island concrete with recycled glass—Rob Hendrickson. Tile backsplash mosaic—Arizona Tile & Stone, wall tiles—Statements Distinctive Tile & Stone; flooring—Statements Tile. Faucets main—Cifa; island—KWC Faucets, Inc.; bar—Waterstone Co. Lighting—Forecast Lighting. Sliding doors custom panels—Lumitor. Dining set—Kasala. Bar stools—Design Within Reach. Chinese red boxes, trays, and bowls antique—Jane Piper Reed and Co. Tray—Mrs. Cook's. Cutting board—Gulassa and Co.



{98-105} TASTE OF TUSCANY

Kitchen designer—Kristin Okley, CKD, ASID. Builder—John McKenzie. Range, wall ovens, dishwashers, warming drawer, microwave—Viking Range Corp. Hood—Habertham Designs. Refrigerators—Sub-Zero Freezer Co., Inc. Cabinetry perimeter, island—Custom Cupboards, red—Downview Kitchens. Cabinetry hardware—Top Knobs USA, Inc. Countertops—Cathedral Marble & Granite, Inc. Tile backsplash—Natural Stone Specialist. Main sink—Stone Forest. Faucets—Kohler Co. Flooring—J.M. McDonick Co., Inc. Lighting over island—Elk Lighting, Inc.; chandelier in banquettes—Hinkley Lighting; chandelier in butler's pantry—Progress Lighting. Paint—Benjamin Moore. Windows—Pella Corp. Ironwork on windows—Capitol City Ironworks. Table, chairs in banquettes, bar chairs—Century Furniture.



{106-113} A FAMILY AFFAIR

Kitchen designer—Jodi Caden. Range, hood, warming drawers—Wolf Appliance Co., LLC. Ovens, microwaves—GE Appliances. Dishwashers—Asko. Garbage compactor—KitchenAid. Mixer—Sunbeam. Cabinetry—Caden Design Group. Cabinetry hardware—Schaub and Co. Countertop island in Super White granite, perimeter in Flamed Black Absolute granite, desk in limestone, backsplash tile marble—check with local suppliers. Sink—Franke Kitchen Systems Division. Faucet—Elbow. Flooring oak—check with a local supplier. Paint—Benjamin Moore. Chairs island—Sherwood Studios, Inc.; dining—Loewenston. Table custom laminate—check with a local craftsman. Computer—Panasonic. Desk tray, flowered boxes, stapler, pencils—Pottery Barn. Desk vase, patent leather file holder, platters, tray, soap dish, hand towels—Crate & Barrel. File folders, files in desk cabinet—Target Stores. Canisters, utensils, uterail pot—Williams-Sonoma. Bowl holding lines—Smith & Hawkin.