kitchens



GRAY GLAM IN TENAFLY

KITCHEN DESIGNER: BONNIE HUFNAGEL, ULRICH, RIDGEWOOD | ARCHITECT: RICHARD BOUCHARD PHOTOGRAPHY COURTESY OF DOVE + CO. PHOTOGRAPHY

For this Tenafly homeowner seeking a glamorous white and gray kitchen, Ulrich kitchen designer Bonnie Hufnagel seized the opportunity to play with a palette of silvery shades and high-shine surfaces ranging from matte grays to metallics.

"Aesthetically, the homeowner wanted plenty of sparkle and bling, yet also wanted the kitchen to be elegant and sophisticated," recalls Hufnagel, who introduced her client to durable, maintenance-free materials. These included DuraCeramic Carrara white 12-inch by 24-inch floor tiles from Abbey Carpet & Floor in Hawthorne and scratch-resistant HanStone engineered stone counters that achieved the look she wanted without added cost and constant upkeep.

"The aluminum silver metal tile backsplash was a lucky find at Bergen Brick & Tile in Wyckoff. We were looking for a unique material that had that special sparkle the homeowner desired. When we saw it we both said, 'Wow,' and never looked back. It's one of the highlights of this beautiful kitchen," says the designer.

Before the decorative details, however, Hufnagel had to tackle the existing kitchen's structural shortcomings, including a long and narrow design, a tiny island, a catchall space for collected junk, and a hutch and walk-in pantry that separated the kitchen and family room. Once it was widened and squared off, the resulting space made room for a generous, multifunction island with plenty of seating, as well as a powder room, mud hallway and wall of pantries. Painted gray, the island is a subtle counterpoint to the kitchen's white surfaces.



"Keep an open mind about material options. Many of the latest, such as vinyl flooring, look amazing and are user-friendly to boot! Take a look at the floor in this kitchen, for example." — Bonnie Hufnagel