



The inspiration was the homeowners' trip to Tuscany. The designer created a Tuscan arch to open the kitchen to the adjacent family room, and repeated the arch in the open bookcase and on the custom wood hood. Natural materials such as granite and tile were used. The base cabinet between the kitchen and family room and the expanded island now serve as places where guests gather and snacks are served when the couple entertains.

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Black*  
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All the kitchen projects featured in this book were designed and installed by Morris Black Designs. We welcome projects of all sizes and for all budgets. For personalized attention, please call for an appointment:

**Allentown: 610-264-2700    Bartonsville: 570-619-7173**

*We look forward to working with you!*

# Kitchen Remodeling IDEAS



Kitchen Remodeling Projects  
Designed and Installed by

*Morris  
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**DESIGNS**  
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A passion for design. A design for your passion.

# Welcome to Morris Black Designs

We're so pleased that you've taken the time to visit our showroom. Feel free to browse and collect ideas for your kitchen transformation.

If you need immediate assistance, please ask to meet with one of our talented kitchen designers. For undivided attention, it's best to schedule an appointment in advance.

## How We Work

### The Design Phase

Your Designer will help you begin the journey through the myriad of kitchen design and product possibilities, starting with an in-depth survey of your likes and dislikes. Your designer will visit your home to evaluate the space, take detailed measurements, and address your functional and aesthetic goals, including any special needs or considerations. He or she will then develop a detailed plan based on your lifestyle, your "wish-list", and your budget.

From the floorplan that your designer develops, we will create a set of interpretive drawings, including elevation views, or perspective (3 dimensional) drawings. A combination of AutoCAD drawings or hand-drawn perspectives may be used to illustrate your new kitchen. Your designer will then invite you back to the showroom to unveil the plans along with an estimated cost for the project.

### Once the Project is Approved

Once you have approved the plans, specifications, and product selections for your kitchen, all materials will be ordered and our installers scheduled according to the time needed to execute your project. Our Production Coordinator will handle the scheduling of any subcontractors (plumbers, electricians, tile contractors) who may be working on your project, and all deliveries and installation dates will be carefully coordinated with you.

Morris Black Designs employs expert installers and carpenters, who are the best in the business. They work closely with your designer, paying careful attention to every detail. At completion, you and your designer will conduct a Final Inspection together, to make sure that every detail is to your (and our) satisfaction.

Please visit our showroom again -  
or call 610-264-2700 for an appointment.

*We'd love to work with you!*

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## Open and Inviting French Country

The small u-shaped kitchen was divided from the dining area by one wing of the "U". This visual barrier was removed during the remodeling, creating an open and cheerful kitchen.



Heritage cabinets in Maple with "Ivory Hearthstone" finish complement the "Giallo Antico" granite countertops. A custom table was created, connected to the new island. New stainless steel KitchenAid appliances included a warming drawer. A beadboard hood, finished to match the cabinetry, with a carved French Country valance complete the look.

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## Family Friendly in Philly

The family wanted to keep their tile floor, and liked the basic layout, but the plain laminate cabinets had to go.

The designer kept the basic footprint, but expanded the islands for distinct purposes: the far island with a cooktop, downdraft vent and deep pot and pan drawers the chef's domain. The island in the foreground was designed with multiple height countertops - one raised to add much-needed seating. Since the kitchen is open to the family room, a glass display was added to the island end to showcase the homeowner's collection of cut glass.

The refrigerator is hidden behind panels that match the cabinetry. Wall cabinets are staggered to add interest. A wet bar and wine storage was added near the dining room. Cherry cabinets with black accent molding were used. Countertops are Corian and granite.



## Small Kitchen

Tiny and inefficient, the kitchen had yellow laminate countertops and a separate dishwasher on wheels.

Every inch counted in this project. After, the kitchen has maple cabinets, a built-in dishwasher and microwave, granite countertops, a small eat-in table, and even an open cabinet next to the refrigerator to hang dish towels.

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## Cherry Cabinets & Stainless Steel

Before, the u-shaped kitchen had limited storage options and limited countertop area. After, the range was moved, and a second sink added to the new island. One wing of the "U" was removed, and new storage was added to the island and the opposite wall containing the refrigerator (not shown).

The homeowners also gained storage by installing taller wall cabinets, with a custom soffit wrapped in crown molding that matches the cabinets. The cabinets are Yorktowne in Cherry with a Garnet finish, with UbaTuba granite countertops. The result: added efficiency, more storage and a new level of sophistication.

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## From Small to Grand

The homeowners wanted an eat-in area, better lighting, more wall cabinets and a larger space to entertain.

The current kitchen, at 160 square feet, was obviously not sufficient for all they desired, so the homeowners happily annexed a little used spare bedroom next to the kitchen. Since the three spaces being remodeled all had different flooring and ceiling heights, the work began by leveling and refinishing both floors and ceilings. The designer created a larger island with space for countertop-depth guest seating and a cooktop with a downdraft vent. The chef is now surrounded by rollout pot and pan drawers, a pullout spice cabinet, a cutlery drawer, and a built-in dishwasher just steps away. The sink was relocated to take advantage of the view of the yard. A wall including double wall ovens and refrigerator freezer is next to the sink. New lighting, granite countertops and neutral colors complement the painted cabinets.



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AFTER



BEFORE

## Kosher Kitchen

The homeowners entertain often - friends, business associates and their large blended family. Keeping a kosher kitchen meant finding room for multiple sets of dishes and separate meat and dairy areas. The stone walls in their historic home meant adding on would be difficult. Functionality and storage were their primary concerns.

To make every inch useful, the Morris Black designer removed a wall dividing the kitchen from the mud room. He then packed the room with lazy susan corner cabinets, roll-outs and pull-outs that make everything easily accessible. A shallow cabinet even contains a folding step stool so the owners can reach seldom used items in the extra-tall wall cabinets.

Cherry cabinets with a soft green accent molding were selected. Bamboo flooring was chosen as a ecologically-friendly option.



AFTER



BEFORE

The homeowners had high hopes for this tiny space - a 10' x 12' area with four doorways - one leading to a 7' x 7' dining nook. Previous remodeling had lead to mismatched cabinets and a lack of prep area.

The designer removed one wall to open the space to the dining nook. By placing the appliances back-to-back at an angle, he made room for a new countertop, new stainless refrigerator freezer and a double wall oven. A custom table, just visible in the lower left, was angled to seat four. A cooktop was selected, which enabled deep pot and pan drawers to be installed beneath. Maple cabinets, solid surface Gilbralter countertops and new lighting completed the project. The homeowners were thrilled that everything on their wish list was included.

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AFTER



BEFORE

## Elegant Upgrade

With dark wood cabinets, laminate countertops and wallpaper everywhere, this kitchen was rooted in the 1950s.

The homeowner and the designer selected a neutral palette, with creamy painted cabinets and earth-tone tile backsplash and flooring. The refrigerator and dishwasher were both hidden behind matching panels. Black granite countertops and new stainless steel stove provide contrasting texture and shine. A punch of red paint on the walls adds drama.



AFTER



BEFORE

## Expanded Kitchen in Historic Home

The owners of this historic home in Mainline Philadelphia wanted to de-countrify their kitchen and create a new kitchen that reflected the 1920s origin of the home.

A small wall between the kitchen and a hallway was removed to gain space. Simple cabinets with deep crown molding were selected, with a bank of glass doors to mimic an old fashioned built-in hutch. The refrigerator and dishwasher are hidden behind panels. An eat-in area was added to the prep island, with countertop depth seating. A small planning desk was added facing the window. Latches and cup pulls, subway tile and globe lights add to the authenticity. The walls are painted a soft gray to complement the marble countertops and stainless steel appliances.

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## Modern Maple

In this renovation of a 1980's kitchen, the homeowner requested more efficient use of space, better lighting, the cooktop moved, a second oven added, and easy up-keep. The existing floor, dishwasher, disposal, oven and microwave were to stay.

Morris Black replaced the stark white kitchen with light maple cabinetry and moved the fridge to the back wall of the kitchen. A sleek set-in range replaced the refrigerator, which provided space for the requested second oven. The existing wall oven was installed in the island. The lighting was improved significantly and the countertops are now care-free engineered stone.

The black trim over the upper cabinets ties into the cabinet hardware, and appliances. The tile backsplash brings a bold splash of color. The multiple tile hues and sizes appear very randomly placed, but our creative home owner and our tile setter made this happen with careful planning.

The result: a low maintenance and more efficient kitchen, packed with storage and color.



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## Arts and Crafts

This north-facing kitchen, with its pine cabinets stained walnut and brown vinyl floor, was dark and depressing.

By eliminating the soffit, the wall cabinets could extend to the ceiling. Deep pot and pan drawers were added beside the stove. The cabinetry is cherry in a warm honey finish and uses two door styles. Costa Esmeralda granite countertops were extended into the eat-in area for a seamless and expansive look. New flooring, new lighting and stained glass accent tiles completed the transformation.





## Family Friendly Kitchen

Before, the doorway next to the stove lead to a small dining room. Both the kitchen and the dining areas were small and enclosed.

The solution was to remove the wall between the dining room and kitchen, and extend the countertop as a built-in dining area. Maple cabinets in a natural finish lightened the room, and stainless steel appliances add sparkle. The dishwasher was built-in and paneled to match the cabinetry. The new dining area features a matching bookcase and window seat. Granite countertops and a double sink are favorites of the homeowner.



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## 1960s Updated

This kitchen was due for an update! The linoleum floor, the wallpapered ceiling, and especially the orange laminate countertops were all past their prime.

The designer relocated the refrigerator near the patio door for easy access to the pool. The angled wall allowed for a built-in recessed microwave. A glass display cabinet over the sink highlights glassware. Porcelain tile was selected for the floor, and tumbled tile for the backsplash.

The countertop is Corian, with an inset of Moss Green accenting the edge. Cherry cabinets, undercabinet lighting and new recessed lighting complete the look.