

FAMILY AFFAIR

An Atherton couple reimagines and modernizes
a property that's very close to home.

BY MICHAEL MCCARTHY
PHOTOGRAPHED BY CHRISTOPHER STARK



THE PROJECT

The phrase “no place like home” isn’t merely a great line from a classic film; it’s also the mantra for a couple who bought a property in Atherton located down the street from one of the spouse’s parents. In fact, it’s where she grew up. The 6,400-square-foot home, built in the 1950s and set on a great lot on a cul-de-sac, needed a significant renovation to streamline functionality and ensure comfort for a busy family of five with three young children.

THE TEAM

Renowned designer Kendra Nash, principal at Nash Design Group (nashdesigngroup.com), was selected to transform every single inch of the home. Nash, who describes her design aesthetic as eclectic, functional, unexpected and effortless, says she first learns a client’s short- and long-term goals. “We also ask for a ton of feedback in the beginning, so we can get to know what clients like, as it leads to a more seamless process with less back and forth,” she says. “Pretty much all of our clients end up being friends in the end, because there’s such a closeness that’s needed as we design for their everyday lives.”

THE GOALS

“The client is a trained chef, and it was really important to think about how she could entertain guests while cooking,” says Nash, who worked with team members Amalia Kallas (lead designer) and Rebecca Araquistain

A Kyle Bunting rug and cozy couch grace the living room.



Calacatta marble
tops the island,
creating contrast
and drama.

(designer). “The husband, a tech wiz, was really interested in adding smart elements to the home while keeping everything to a touch of a button. Also, with kids—a set of girl twins and one boy—durability was a main concern. That’s why we used natural elements to keep an elevated look, yet sealed everything appropriately so it would last a lifetime. Lastly, we considered their gorgeous art collection and highlighted it with intentional, layered lighting throughout.”

GREAT ROOM, DINING ROOM

Nash says this shared space needed to have endless comfort and an elevated look, since this is where all the action occurs for entertaining. “The family cozies up on the gorgeous cloudlike, durable couch for movie nights, and they also entertain friends here. It’s the perfect blend of effortless comfort, yet with an appeal of styled formality,” says Nash, who added a chandelier from Arteriors (arteriorshome.com) and window treatments with fabric from Creation Baumann (creationbaumann.com).

For the dining room, Nash’s clients wanted an open floor plan with clear access to the kitchen, allowing the chef to cook while the guests are still in the middle of the action. “No formal space was created, because the couple simply don’t live that way,” says Nash, who added a live-edge wood table for drama and functionality.

LOUNGE, LIVING ROOM

“We call this space the lounge, because it gives off a very 1950s feel, which is a nod to when the home was built. The graphic wall element sets the tone, and it’s amazing in the evening when everything is backlit. The starburst center fixture and velvet blue couch are also nods to that time period,” says Nash, whose team added elements like pendants from Hudson Valley Lighting Group (hvlgroup.com), window treatments crafted with Misia (misia-paris.com) fabric, an accent wall from Du Chateau (duchateau.com) and sconces from RH (rh.com).

A Kyle Bunting (kylebunting.com) rug lines the art-filled living room, which is an additional family gathering space. Nash added beams for symmetry between



The primary suite offers a calming environment with a custom bed and floral wallpaper.

the great room and living room, as well as a modern limestone fireplace with material sourced from Da Vinci Marble (davincimarble.com), cabinetry flanked with brass metal mesh and hardware to balance the gold in the Hygge & West (hyggeandwest.com) wallpaper.

KITCHEN, BAR

Nash created contrast in the kitchen, especially Calacatta Viola slabs and the Iron Ore hue from Sherwin-Williams (sherwin-williams.com) for the cabinetry. “We also added gorgeous oak beams with brass lighting for added glam and warmth. Accent lighting located above the sink wall gives some attention to the motorized garage window, which is perfect for sending food and drinks out to guests on the back

patio.” Sconces are from Circa Lighting (circaighting.com), and hardware and appliance pulls are from Rejuvenation (rejuvenation.com) and Emtek (emtek.com).

A nearby bar added glam to the space, especially with a gold Gravity backsplash by Porcelanosa (porcelanosa-usa.com) and a Calacatta Viola slab from Da Vinci Marble. Nash says that adding the backsplash was a visual signal for guests to know where the party begins.

PRIMARY SUITE

“The chain-link Arteriors chandelier was a piece the couple immediately fell in love with, as it combined both a masculine and feminine element to the space,” says Nash. “And from there we built upon that vibe with feminine floral wallpaper, but with a



From top: A creative use of seating allows the parents to cater to their children in high style; the primary suite bathroom features highly functional cabinetry with plenty of storage.

more streamlined custom bed, plus sconces and a chandelier from Arteriors for a masculine edge.”

Nash says she took a similar approach to the primary bathroom, as she layered in Rubelli (rubelli.com) fabric with Fabricut (fabricut.com) sheers for the window treatments, Calacatta wall tiles, CB2 (cb2.com) cabinetry hardware and Circa Lighting chandelier and sconces. “The shower was really fun to design, as we made sure there was plenty of natural light with a full-size skylight above—perfect for stargazing under the dual shower heads,” says Nash.

HOW THE HOME IS LIVING

“They’re obsessed with their home, and so are their friends and family,” says Nash about her happy clients. “She especially loves entertaining and using her state-of-the-art kitchen to all of its capabilities. It’s everything they thought it could be and more.” ◦



The primary suite bathroom features a chandelier from Circa Lighting and Calacatta wall tiles.

DESIGN DETAILS

Home Type
Single-family

Location
Atherton

Interior Design
Kendra Nash,
Nash Design Group
nashdesigngroup.com

RESOURCES

Arteriors

Chandelier, great room
arteriorshome.com

Circa Lighting

Sconces, kitchen; chandelier and sconces, primary bath
circalighting.com

Creation Baumann

Window treatment fabric, great room
creationbaumann.com

Da Vinci Marble

Fireplace, living room; bar slab
davincimarble.com

Du Chateau

Wallcovering, lounge
duchateau.com

Emtek

Hardware and appliance pulls, kitchen
emtek.com

Hudson Valley Lighting

Pendants, lounge
hvlgroup.com

Hygge & West

Wallcovering, living room
hyggeandwest.com

Kyle Bunting

Rug, living room
kylebunting.com

Misia

Window treatment fabric, lounge
misia-paris.com

Porcelanosa

Backsplash, bar
porcelanosa-usa.com

Rejuvenation

Hardware and appliance pulls, kitchen
rejuvenation.com

RH

Sconces, lounge
rh.com

Sherwin-Williams

Cabinetry paint, kitchen
sherwin-williams.com