

Above: A compelling composition of Asian, contemporay and rustic elements provides Chuck and Linda Holland with the artistic environment they wanted for their updated kitchen.

Facing page: Lift-system cabinet doors open easily and don't get in the way when someone is working at the counter.

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ART FOR KITCHEN'S SAKE

"HUSTLE" AND "BUSTLE" are two words often used in conjunction with the noun "kitchen" — but not with the kitchen that Tatiana Machado Rosas of Jackson Design & Remodeling created for Chuck and Linda Holland.

"Linda collects a lot of Asian artifacts,"
Chuck says, "and we wanted to integrate
that feeling of peacefulness and order
throughout our home, including in our
kitchen. We didn't want a jump in your face,
this is a kitchen-where-you-cook kind of
kitchen."

Instead, the couple wanted a well-designed, artistic space, where one might be more in awe over visual and textural beauty than utilitarian function. Tatiana gave them both.

"Linda and Chuck are meticulous about visuals," Tatiana says, "and they wanted a kitchen that better reflected their taste. The original kitchen was unremarkable with a bland design. We created an elegant, welcoming atmosphere with a thoughtful blend of elements."

Rustic, stacked stone along with rich mahogany and cherry woods balance the high-gloss sheen of black-granite countertops, stainless-steel appliances and mosaic glass tile.

"The integration of materials from room to room is so smooth," Linda says. "The

natural stone that encases the ovens reflects the fireplace stone in the family room. The new pantry has shoji doors, which reflect the shoji window coverings in the dining room. And the pocket door between the dining room and kitchen has a shojilooking glass in it that complements the shoji screens. On the kitchen side, the door is painted black to go with the black granite. On the other side, the door is red to complement walls in the dining room."

Where previously everything was cramped into one corner, the new layout takes full advantage of the expanse of the room and its impressive height.

"A wood platform suspended above the central island emphasizes the high ceilings while at the same time bringing definition and human scale to the space," Tatiana says.

The lighting scheme, which includes pendant, dimmer and puck lights, adds

"Now that the kitchen is easier to work in and much more to our liking, we'll cook and entertain more," Chuck says.

"We're very pleased with everything, and our friends love our kitchen too," Linda adds, "although we do have one friend who kept saying, 'Have you started cooking in your kitchen yet, or are you still getting takeout and just looking at how beautiful everything is?'" *

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