



GRAND FRAMES PHOTOGRAPHY BY PREVIEWFIRST

Vacant vastness rather than sumptuous spaciousness defined the cavernous great room in John and Erin Bosman's Carmel Valley home. Although the open floor plan gave the side-by-side kitchen and living area opportunity for partnership, an inept design caused distance and detachment.

"They had this magnificent space with natural light coming in, but the two rooms had no connection at all," says interior designer Tatiana Machado-Rosas of Jackson Design and Remodeling. "The kitchen was in one corner and the family room was on the other side. The issue was how to unite the two areas without losing that feeling of expansiveness. Coffered ceilings with wide-beamed, simple frames in a four-square motif provided the solution. Their design was in keeping with the sophisticated, traditional look that the homeowners desired. We installed one in the family room and one perfectly centered above the kitchen island."

The generous island clearly defines eating and cooking zones with a raised 7-foot-by-7-foot surface topping a seating area for six and a lower area for prep work. The hoped-for marble top quickly switched to a more durable marble lookalike: a quartzite *Sea Pearl* slab that gleams in shades of aqua, soft mint, gray and white. Burnished with a rich stain,

the island's alder wood base includes interesting details such as turned legs and beadboard.

"We probably went through 20 design iterations trying to figure out the island," John says. "Underneath and all the way around it, there are cabinets and drawers that open for extra storage. The island is the centerpiece. I love that I am able to cook and prep and be part of the conversation when we entertain."

Using a diamond-patterned backsplash in a soft cream and hard/rock maple cabinetry painted in a white glaze keeps the kitchen bright while adding contrast with the darker wood on the island and floor. A bold hood, created from the same alder wood as the island, provides a compelling focal point. The wood's finish echoes the classic copper of the double sinks.

"In the remodel, we also transformed a small breakfast room into a bar with a design inspired by a traditional Irish pub," Tatiana says. "Guests can gather at the bar that's open and adjacent to the kitchen, sit around the island or get cozy around the family room fireplace. Two sets of doors, one from the family room and one from the bar, lead to the pool. John and Erin love entertaining and have many social gatherings. With this new design, indoor/outdoor parties can happen with ease." ❖



Above: Tatiana Machado-Rosas of Jackson Design and Remodeling unified the kitchen and family room into a great room with plenty of space for entertaining. Facing page: Details on the alder wood island include turned legs and bead board. A former breakfast room, seen through the arched doorway, is now a full wet bar.