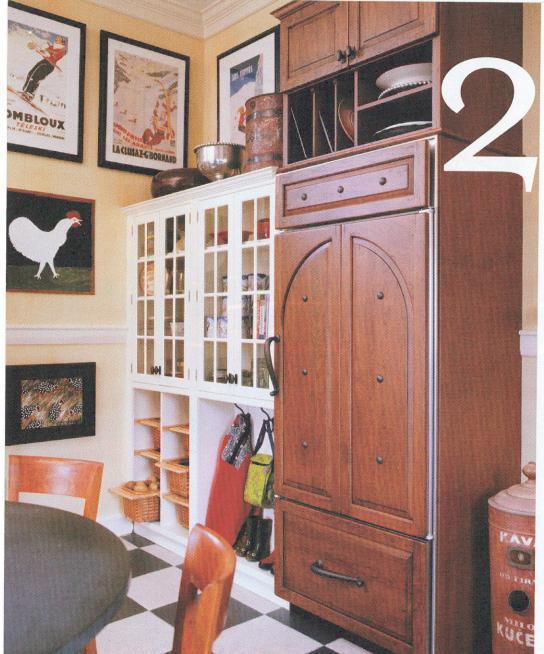


1 Hot Hue

A garnet-red range created an instant color palette for this kitchen, designed by Kathy Marshall and Gracyn Whitman for the Junior League of Boston 2004 Decorators' Show House. A diamondshape tile inset in the backsplash echoes the red color of the range. The house, built in 1805, was once home to a commandant in Boston's Charlestown Navy Yard. The vent hood was inspired by naval history. "My son and I went to the [USS] Constitution Museum, where we saw a corbel bracket I loved," Marshall says. "The brackets on the hood were patterned after it."

10 things to love about this kitchen

A nautical heritage combined with old-world design details creates a family-friendly kitchen in a historical 1800s Massachusetts home.



Eclectic Elements

Wood panels with an arch design cover the refrigerator, and ironwork accents give the appliance a timeworn feel. White cabinets also create a practical storage center. The glass-front cabinets hold extra dishware, pullout willow baskets store onions and potatoes, and low hooks offer children a place to store coats and bags.

3 Folksy Finds

"When we designed this kitchen, we did it for families like ours, who go on road trips and bring home favorite, funny, and wonderful things," Marshall says. Examples include vintage skiing posters and a folk art chicken. Such pieces are an affordable way for a young family to decorate, she adds.

4 Winsome Window

A swag-and-jabot-style valance is part of a fabric treatment that dresses up the large window above the sink. "It's the most formal design element in the room, but the 12-foot ceiling allowed us to pull it off," Marshall says of the treatment. The window is flanked by stacked tiers of cabinets, conveying the feel of a butler's pantry. In the center of the room, a rounded island provides a practical food preparation and seating area. The round design softens the room's straight lines.

5 Hefty Hardware

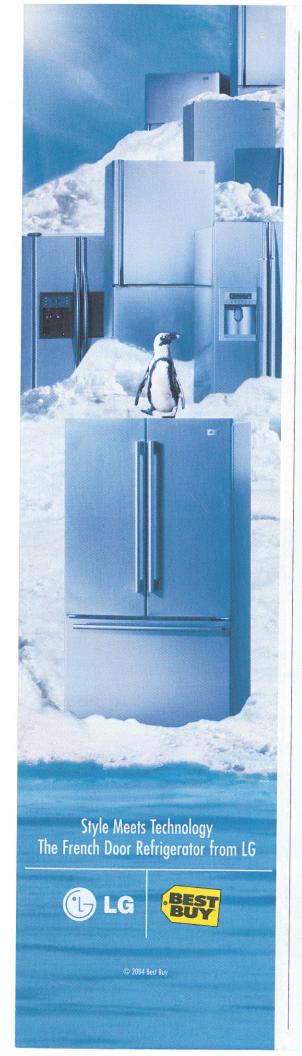
Burly cast-iron hardware conveys a sense of strength, permanence, and history. The oval knobs are framed by 2-inch-tall rectangular backplates, which help protect the buttercream cabinet finish from being marred by daily use.

Seasoned Surfaces

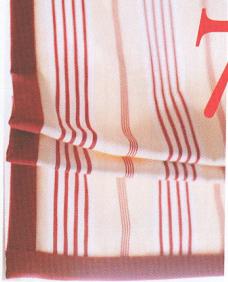
A porcelain apron-front sink adds old farmhouse flavor, especially when paired with a vintage-style faucet in an antique-copper finish. The surrounding countertops are honed black granite. Color variations in the hand-glazed backsplash tiles—including pale sand, dark red, and burnt umber—suggest natural aging. The earthy hues also complement recurring red accents.



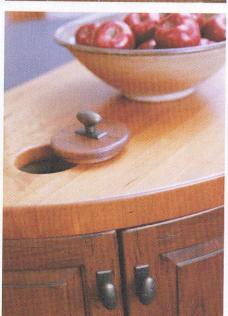




n the table Style









Red-and-white ticking covers the kitchen window. Trimmed with a band of heavier canvas, the cotton fabric was left unlined to allow light to glimmer through it into the kitchen.

8 Taut Tile

The crisp tile treatment on the range backsplash is repeated in two smaller versions along the sink wall. The tiles in the center of the diamond are stained glass. Horizontal field tiles are arranged like bricks in a running-bond pattern.

9 Accessible Receptacle
On the kitchen island, a round piece of maple lifts to reveal a trash bin hidden in the cabinetry below.

10 Clever Cabinetry

The cherry wood drawers that flank the range were distressed and coated with a toffee-color glaze to give them an aged appearance. "It reinforces the idea of an old kitchen that developed over time," Whitman says. Instead of traditional knobs, the drawers use thumbholes to open and close. The simple design is reminiscent of cabinetry used on boats. KBI

Resources begin on page 128.

