PINNACLE LIVING MOUNT HERN STYLE

INCREDIBLE KITCHEN & BATTH WINKERS

DECORATOR'S DREAM:

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KITCHENS

CATEGORY: ARCHITECTS PHOTO BY TIM BURLESON, THE FRONTIER GROUP



Rob Carlton

Winner: Rob Carlton, Carlton Architecture, PA, Asheville, N.C. 828-274-7554, x311

Winning Entry: Kitchen of Rob and Dawn Carlton, Asheville, N.C.

Objective of Design: Create openness and connection with adjacent spaces, which include the dining area and living room.

Special Features: All appliances are KitchenAid and have overlay doors, which blend well with the clean lines of the 31-plus feet of European-style maple custom cabinets. The wall cabinets, though limited, provide excellent storage because of the design of horizontal doors. The microwave is built into a cabinet. The center island contains a cook top with pot drawers underneath. A wood canopy that mimics the geometry of the island serves as a lighting cover. The living room end of the island is cantilevered and covered in cork, which makes it a comfortable spot for laptop use.

Outstanding Detail: Most storage is in the base cabinets, which are all drawers and great for pots, plates, Tupperware and easier on one's back than lifting heavy plates to upper cabinets. The raised oven is good ergonomically, too.

Why Design Works: The refrigerator is out of the way, and wide work surfaces are on each side of the sink and cook top. The pantry has good builtin space. The design also allows a parent to work in the kitchen while the family's two young children play nearby.

Budget: \$19,500.

A stunning example of the owner's own architectural expertise, Carlton designed this sleek and modern kitchen for his own home in Asheville and focused on making the location practical, attractive and easy to use.

