ROOM WE LOVE

Understated Update

Interior designer Laura Casey transformed a dated Cotswold kitchen and dining room into a stylish and family-friendly entertaining space—*Blake Miller*

CABINETS "The homeowners are a young family and wanted a more updated, less traditional look," Casey says. Her clients, Stuart and Jay Pfeifer (along with daughter, Channing, and son, Charlie), opted for Shaker-style cabinets from ProBuild for a more streamlined appearance. Casey also extended the cabinets to the ceiling to create the illusion of higher ceilings.

LIGHTING Sometimes two pendants are better than one. "Having a pair of pendants [from Visual Comfort] allows for a lot of light and gives some visual interest rather than having just one over the table," says Casey. "They're not visually commanding, so I think the room could afford two of them without being distracting."



BACKSPLASH Offset traditional patterns with something more intricate. A basic, white subway tile from Crossville Tile dominates the backsplash except for behind the range, where Casey incorporated a herringbone pattern to create visual interest.

CHAIRS Look for ways to add splashes of color. Casey purchased these square-back chairs at The Unfinished Furniture Shop and painted them with hale navy by Benjamin Moore to add a bit of color to the otherwise neutral room.

COUNTERTOPS Consider versatility and upkeep. The Pfeifers chose white granite countertops from World Stone not only to help balance the gray cabinets with the white backsplash, but also because granite is "durable and long lasting," says Casey. The veining that runs throughout the slab gives it a sense of texture, she adds.

CHRIS EDWARDS