

ber from a local salvage yard. “It lends some history to the house,” she notes.

The Shaker cabinets were treated to have a barn-board look—they are meant to be comfortable and durable. “We wanted to bring some farmhouse elements into the kitchen without making it over the top,” says Cole. “I like to do that with materials and colors because I think they elicit an emotion.” Here, she used soft grays, blue-greens, and white oak contrasted with touches of black for a contemporary take on the farmhouse feel.

For flooring, she replaced the existing kitchen tile with wood-look porcelain tile in a herringbone pattern to complement the heart-pine floorboards that run throughout the house. Asked about her choice, Cole says, “If we are going to go with wood on wood, I like them to be different with a distinct style while still working well with the rest of the house.” The wood-look tile adds another dimension to the kitchen, and provides some warmth amidst all of the cool tones.

Signature details

In an atypical move, Cole hung a mercury-glass pendant light—something more likely to be seen in a dining room—left of the sink. “To counterbalance the visual of the off-center faucet, we hung the pendant offset on the other side, so overall it feels balanced,” she explains, adding that she always enjoys the chance to do something unconventional.

Cole was a woodworker in a previous life, and her penchant for the material is on display in the range hood with softly tapered sides. “The nice thing about being someone who has done a lot of work with wood and who understands wood species is that I can be very specific about what I want.” Here, she wanted white oak in a matte finish in a transitional style—a hallmark of her work. “What’s really important to us as a firm is to create spaces that clients won’t tire of in a few years. I think one of the pillars of doing that is to use a blend of styles. Even though we live in this city full of Colonial architecture, it’s not uncommon for us to use a midcentury piece or a modern fabric or light fixture. It might look to some like it’s out place, but I think it adds interest, depth, and longevity to the design.” □

Kiley Jacques is senior editor of Green Building Advisor. Photos by Rebecca McAlpin Photography, courtesy of vestige HOME.



SOURCES

WALLPAPER Cole & Son

LIGHTING Hudson Valley Lighting

MIRROR Rejuvenation

SINK Lacava

FAUCET Brizo

TOILET DXV, Cossu One-Piece Elongated Toilet

FLOOR TILES Interceramic USA

A BIT OF FANCY Royal-purple wainscoting, brass fixtures and accents, and sophisticated but playful wallpaper and floor tiles combine for a tastefully eclectic space. Though smaller than the original half-bath, it is a much-improved composition.