

Better Homes and Gardens Special Interest Publications

# Before & After

From  
**Bland**  
to  
*Grand!*

**Fabulous  
Fireplaces**  
Add Spark & Style

**Get Ready  
to Sell**

- Add Curb Appeal
- Improve Storage
- Freshen Rooms

Turn Beige to Bright  
in 48 Hours



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Display Until December 9, 2008



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## BRING IT HOME

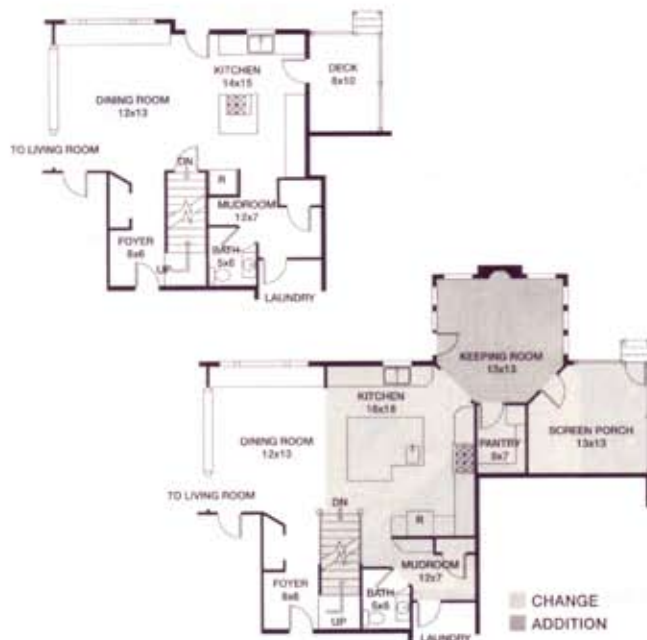
Elizabeth Tanny wanted an old-fashioned feel to her kitchen, so she looked for surfaces with vintage flavor. Consider doing the same thing in your kitchen.

**Spiffy spouts** The satin-nickel faucets were high-priced, but Elizabeth couldn't find a replacement. "I tried to find less-expensive ones, but I couldn't—and I was crazy about them," Elizabeth says. "I had a yard sale so I could splurge on them."

**Pattern play** Look for vintage-style reproduction subway tiles with a wavy, irregular texture. These tiles cost about \$16 per square foot.

**Dull instead of shiny** Honed finishes appear more time-worn than their shiny counterparts. The Tannys spent \$800 to dull down these black-granite countertops, making the tops appear to have been in place for decades.





**above:** A beaded-board half-wall separates the dining and living rooms. Elizabeth added cushions to the window seat near the table to create a cozy sitting spot.

**below:** Behind the refrigerator wall is a renovated mudroom with hooks for hanging coats and bags when entering from the garage. The area helps keep clutter from entering the kitchen, Elizabeth says. To create a better sitting spot in the space, the door into the kitchen was shifted several feet.

## FARM FLAVOR

Bring casual country warmth into your home by adding a few of these assets:

**BEADED-BOARD PANELING** lends pattern and old-fashioned appeal to the walls. Iron hooks replicate those handmade by blacksmiths.

**USE A REPRODUCTION** iron chandelier to light the eating area.

**ADD A FEW CHERISHED ANTIQUES.** A vintage table and chairs, holdovers from the original kitchen, provide comfy mealtime seating for four and a spot for the kids to play or do homework while Mom and Dad cook. A new ding or mark adds personal history, not stress.

**CONSIDER A FEW FOLK-ART ACCENTS.**

A homemade bench, a handmade footstool, and a hand-whittled bowl dress up the space in front of the half wall.



For a tour of another family-friendly kitchen, go to [RemodelingCenter.com/ba](http://RemodelingCenter.com/ba)