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A Kitchen with Open Views

A couple designs their kitchen to maximize their view of Colorado's beautiful landscapes

BY ALANA WILLIS



Sleek, contemporary, and functional

come to mind when you step inside Travis and Clayton Tangen's spacious new Castle Rock kitchen. The open, inviting space is part of an entire new home custom-built for the Tangens, who recently moved to Colorado from Georgia. The couple worked closely with Kerry Comstock of Eagle's Nest Developers and Chris Bottin of Timberline Home Design to build an airy, modern space with a distinct Colorado vibe.

"We got lucky!" exclaims Clayton about the couple's fortunate choice in architects. "We stumbled on Chris' name and he recommended Kerry Comstock after a previous builder came in way over budget. "It turned out to be a blessing in disguise because Kerry









came in on budget for a much higher-end finished home.”

The kitchen, at once modern and rustic, incorporates the Colorado feel by including stonework, neutral-tone granite countertops, and numerous windows that showcase the glorious mountain views from every angle. “We wanted to maximize our view!” says Clayton of the family’s kitchen space. “I wanted to be able to look at the Front Range or the Butte when preparing meals or washing dishes.” The abundance of breathtaking views is also enjoyable for the couple’s two young daughters. “The girls love watching the deer and wild turkeys out the windows while we eat,” she adds.

“I wanted to be able to look at the Front Range or the Butte when preparing meals or washing dishes.”

Not only does the Tangens’ new kitchen offer majestic views of the mountains and local wildlife, but it also allows mom and dad to keep an eye on the kids while preparing meals or washing dishes without sacrificing the elegance of a separate formal dining room. “I wanted to be able to see the whole family room



(Left photo) An abundance of natural light filters through multiple windows in the Tangens’ kitchen.



and main floor from the kitchen, but also have the kitchen out of view of the formal dining room. We like to entertain and I wanted to be able to sit in my dining room and look out without seeing stacks of dirty dishes or a mess in kitchen. Chris made it so that the formal dining room is the only room in the main living area that you cannot see into from the kitchen.”

The Tangens’ kitchen is a quiet, understated piece of functional art, with state-of-the-art, stainless Jenn-Air appliances. “We found Jenn-Air appliances to be the best quality for the price,” says Clayton. “I love cooking with them. They are easy to use and keep clean.” The appliances mingle in beautifully with the rustic-inspired, maple wood cabinets designed and installed by Tallgrass Kitchen & Bath.

A striking subway tile backsplash peeks from between an impressive range hood and a smooth glass induction cooktop, simultaneously evoking imagery of the Old

West while looking right at home with the ultra-modern appliances. Leather bar stools reminiscent of cowboys’ saddles effortlessly tie the old-meets-new design of the kitchen together, as does a whimsically-placed antelope skull.

Despite hearing that an island work space should only be four feet away from the cooktop to maximize ease of use, Clayton chose to ignore that rule of thumb in order to allow for things that mattered to her family, like dancing in the kitchen. “I am so happy with that decision,” she tells us. She advises others considering their own custom home or remodel to “stick with your instincts! It’s your kitchen.”

The Tangens and their design team remained committed to the theme of rustic elegance throughout the project, and it shows: from the mantle made from reclaimed wood from an old Montana mineshaft, to the 33-inch Kraus under-mount farmhouse sink, the elements of design and dedication to their inspiration shine through. “Both Chris and Kerry were



an absolute pleasure to work with!” gushes Clayton. “Chris took all of our notes and ideas and literally designed the floor plan we had been dreaming of! He even added in some personal touches that we love.

The Tangens look forward to creating a lifetime of memories in their beautiful new Castle Rock home, with Clayton especially getting excited about making Christmas cookies with her daughters and hosting family holiday gatherings in their open, spacious new kitchen.



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Tallgrass Kitchen & Bath is uniquely qualified to offer you exceptional design options for your kitchen or bath project at an amazing price. They have a quaint Design Studio & Showroom in the heart of beautiful downtown Castle Rock.



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