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Hidden

Before





Unlimited
Possibilities



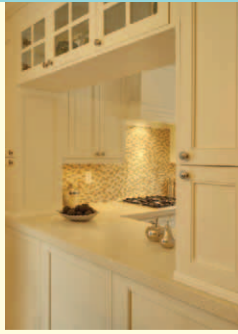
Allison and Sean Doner moved into their new home in 2008, but the kitchen was a relic from the early '80s. It made poor use of the space, and it wasn't particularly functional or attractive, so they knew that a renovation was in order—but they weren't sure how to tackle such a huge and complex project. Allison and Sean both work in the city, and they have two young children to look after, so the prospect of a major home renovation was daunting to say the least. That's when they got in touch with designer Lorie Martin Pessot at *kitchENVision*, who helped them see the potential of the kitchen and navigate the many decisions that had to be made.

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HIDDEN POTENTIAL Continued

The key to the renovation was opening up the space. The dining room had never been used much before, so removing a wall to combine it with the kitchen was a natural first step, but nobody was sure it was actually doable. They went ahead with the plans anyway, and right up until the day of the actual tear-out there was still a chance that the wall would turn out to be structural and too important to remove—but thankfully that didn't happen. They were able to turn the ten-by-ten kitchen into a much larger space, and now the open concept dining area sees plenty of use.



Allison and Sean like to do a lot of cooking and baking with their kids, so the new kitchen was a great gift to the whole family. Instead of four people shuffling around each other with hot pots and pans in a tiny, cramped space, the kitchen makes the process comfortable and convenient. They credit Lorie with helping them understand how to best utilize the space they had.

That wasn't the only piece of advice they took—in fact, Allison and Sean went into the project with only a vague idea of what they wanted. They knew they wanted it to be brighter, with white as the dominant colour, but beyond that they relied on Lorie to help them explore all their options while keeping them on track and within their budget. The process paid off, and their outdated '80s kitchen became an elegant workspace with all the modern amenities. Sometimes renovations seem impossible, or a kitchen seems so wrong that it will never be what you want it to be—but usually all you really need is some expert advice to help uncover the space's hidden possibilities. 



Resource materials & photos provided by:
KitchENvision, Caledon
(for more information see Page 42)

