

# Let There Be Light

BY ALANA WILLIS

**Luminous.** Encounter the high, spacious ceilings and open spaces of Peter and Ginny Loeffler's ranch-style Lone Tree home.

Every inch of the couple's living space seems to breathe along with you, and there doesn't seem to be a corner that isn't filled with soft, natural light. The capacious size and layout of the Loefflers' new kitchen is a purposeful homage to the one they left behind at their previous, larger home.

"We moved from a 7,400 sq.ft. home to a 4,400 sq.ft. home," explains Ginny. "Even though our new space was smaller, we wanted another large kitchen as we find it to be the focal point of the home where everyone gathers."

Peter and Ginny chose JennAir appliances for their professional performance and sophisticated look. The 36" five-burner low profile gas cooktop installs flush into the





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Cabinets by Showplace Cabinetry provide ample storage throughout the kitchen.

granite — its brass burners are accented by the countertop’s own gold and brown tones. The JennAir wall oven, with its dual convection fans, is top-rated and famous for its Culinary Center which can tailor your meal precisely to your liking with step-by-step instructions. JennAir adds a subtle, approachable finesse to the already upscale space.

The design for the kitchen is “very transitional in a Tuscan/Colorado rustic style home,” designer Jann Levinsky of Showplace Cabinetry explains, with many of the ideas dreamt up by the Loefflers. Jann adds, “Ginny had specific elements she wanted incorporated into specific places based on the way they cook, store, and prepare food.”

One of the Loefflers’ biggest requirements for their new kitchen was ample storage space and a natural, functional flow, which the original kitchen had been severely lacking. Ginny recalls, “The kitchen in this 14-year-old home was

outdated and had a small, narrow island without storage. Storage and function were key for us, so we made sure to incorporate both.”

For developing an elegant, transitional space, Jann explains, “We kept the perimeter light and airy, and grounded the center area with a double-sided island in dark cherry. And the use of natural tumbled stone for the backsplash (which went 16 feet up) blended with the fireplace in the adjoining great room.”

Paint grade perimeter cabinets contrast nicely with cherry wood island cabinets and add a lightness that offsets the two different granite slabs used for the countertops and island, which Jann considers her favorite design element of the entire remodel. The backsplash, made of 3x6 tumbled travertine stone, takes up the entire wall and blends with the larger tumbled stone on the fireplace in the adjacent room

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to create a seamless transition between the spaces.

“We have 16-foot high ceilings in the kitchen and wanted to make a statement for the backsplash by covering the whole wall with material,” says Ginny. “That wall is seen from the family room and kitchen nook, so we liked the idea of it being a focal point in that zone.”

The rustic undertones of the kitchen are complemented by beautiful chairs that serve as both statement pieces and functional furnishings. “Our kitchen table and chairs in the nook are a real conversation starter with the chairs being

made out of cowhide, so we made sure they fit into the character of the kitchen,” says Ginny. “We have meals there with a great view of the mountains from all the windows. We also have two counter stools at one end of the island for the grandkids, or when we are on the go with a quick meal.”

Creative use of LED lighting blends with natural light to enhance the understated grandeur of the Loefflers’ kitchen, while a unique pendant lighting fixture adds modern flair. “It covers form, function and bling — the bottoms are made of Swarovski crystals!” exclaims Ginny. “It’s on a dimmer



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switch so we can add mood to the kitchen, or use it to light the workspace.” Touch-activated dimmer buttons also control the LED lights that are hidden both above and under the cabinets, along the toe kick, and inside the upper glass cabinets to easily adjust lighting. “It’s really pretty at night!” Ginny says.

In addition to serving as the ideal backdrop for a large

gathering of family and friends, Ginny appreciates the practical, everyday aspects of the functional layout and design. “The island is a great workspace for my husband and his DIY projects,” she says. “Peter can lay out his tools, paint brushes, and other things with plenty of room to work — without taking up my cooking space!”

Peter and Ginny could not be thrilled more.



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