

# Gourmet Kitchen

R.B. Schwarz Inc.

**THE CABINETS IN THIS 1916** home have become a floor-to-ceiling highlight of this kitchen renovation. “We packed so many cabinets into a little space. I was afraid that it wasn’t going to work out but it’s very nice. Everything fits very well into the space,” says Robert Schwarz, owner of R.B. Schwarz Inc.

Homeowner Julie Micheletti was motivated to revamp her galley kitchen because of design, restoration and layout issues. “Probably in the early ‘80s the kitchen was completely redone and the previous owner had tried to make the house modern,” Micheletti explains. “Though it was a nice kitchen and really functioned beautifully, I wanted to make a kitchen that would fit better with the 1916 house.”

Aside from dated cabinets, the previous remodel had created awkward angles in the space, which needed to be removed to honor the wide galley kitchen. Also awkward was the back entrance, which was redesigned to incorporate the porch into the kitchen space, allowing for more room, more light and more cabinets.

The cabinets are balanced in the space by three windows, a closet door, three openings — the breakfast room, the dining room and the butler’s pantry — and the true divided lite that fronts many of the cabinets. “That glass means it doesn’t feel closed off,” says Micheletti. “It shimmers, it shines and it reflects. You can look through it to whatever might be in there.”

The existing sleek-faced, laminate cabinets were replaced with custom-built cabinetry that kept true to the home’s time period and to the cabinetry in the remainder of the house. “We [have the cabinets made] from scratch because everyone wants to maximize space,” says Schwarz. To further their authenticity, the insides of the cabinets were



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## NUTS & BOLTS

**HOME ADDRESS:**  
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**PROJECT FOCUS:**  
 Kitchen Remodel



painted, which helps them appear original to the house.

The white cabinets pop against a bold blueberry blue on the walls and a soft blueish gray on the ceiling, which carries through to the butler’s pantry ceiling. The elegance and sophistication of the kitchen and pantry is played up with glass cabinet knobs, which can be found in other areas of the home, as well as

antique pewter drawer pulls and knobs that blend well with the gray and blue color palette. Engineered quartz mimics marble on the countertops, and the existing floor tile was pulled up to return the space to hardwood floors.

The redesign was a continuous play in balancing the classic with modern. “I wanted [many of the details] to be constructed as they would have done if it had been made in 1916,” says Micheletti. “I feel like I have taken advantage of a lot of the new while still having that old feel.”

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