

Step Inside the Sophisticated, Sun-Drenched Seattle Kitchen of Our Dreams

by [MEGAN BEAUCHAMP](#)



We've been longtime admirers of Cassandra LaValle's effortlessly sophisticated style, so when we heard that the creative mind behind one of our favorite lifestyle and design blogs, [Coco Kelley](#), was remodeling her Seattle kitchen, we jumped at the chance to get a sneak peek. "Our home was built in the 1920s," she told MyDomaine. "Over the years, it's suffered from some pretty poor remodeling jobs, and the '70s-style kitchen was due for a major update," she added.

"A major update" is no exaggeration for what LaValle and her husband undertook next. The newlyweds stripped the space down to the studs to build the customized kitchen of their dreams. "We wanted to bring character back into the space, open it up to allow for more light, add an open breakfast nook, and install a huge island perfect for cooking, baking, and entertaining," explained LaValle. From the contemporary light fixtures to the natural wood flooring, the couple definitely nailed preserving the space's 1920s charm while adding their own modern touches.

Keep scrolling to step inside a striking white kitchen remodel where traditional design meets modern farmhouse style.

Although they completely gutted the space, they wanted to keep the kitchen's charming character intact while reconfiguring the layout for both daily living and entertaining, explained LaValle. "I let the history of the house speak to me. I wanted to create built-ins where there were none but should have been," she said. "I surprised myself by going even more traditional than I had originally planned while keeping things casual and welcoming," she added.

Shop the look: Silestone [Lagoon Countertops](#) (price varies); Lumber Liquidators [Bellawood](#) (\$6 per square foot); Schoolhouse Electric & Supply Co. [Luna Pendant](#) Rod (\$299)

When it comes to interiors, LaValle's personal style leans toward laidback West Coast aesthetics but with a traditional, slightly rustic twist. "I think I was drawn to modern farmhouse style before it even had a name," said LaValle. "Warm oak, natural linen, and woven textures are my jam."

Shop the look: One Kings Lane [Corbett Round Dining Table](#) (\$945); Serena & Lily [Tucker Chair](#) (\$198)

While sticking to a budget and a timeline is challenging during any remodel, LaValle and her husband faced one particularly unique challenge. "We did have one hiccup, which was that we'd hoped we wouldn't have to put in a support beam when we tore down a wall to open up the room, but we did," she explained. "It was a big setback to our timeline and a stretch to our budget—neither of which is ever fun to deal with."



Shop the look: Arteriors [Rex Pendant](#) (\$810); Minted [Life on Mars](#) (price varies)

Another challenge they faced was one we can certainly relate to—settling on a color scheme. "Picking paint colors was, of course, quite the process, but we landed on [Benjamin Moore White Dove](#) for the majority of the cabinets," said LaValle.

"I grew up with a father in the restaurant industry, so when we cook at home, the food is

always the star of the show," said LaValle. "Colorful kitchens are not for me. I always knew I wanted a light interior, but I intentionally avoided anything high-contrast."

When it came to choosing a countertop material, as much as LaValle loves the look of marble, she's "a quartz fan all the way," she confessed. "Since we've had it in our office and it's been indestructible, I will probably never use another material again." Opting for quartz countertops was a "no-brainer," she said.

Surprisingly, one of the first decisions LaValle made when designing this beautiful kitchen was which appliances she wanted to install. When she saw the [LG Studio Series](#) designed by Nate Berkus in person, she "loved the modern, commercial-style appeal they had," she explained. Another easy decision? The flooring. "With white oak floors throughout the rest of the house already, we decided to continue with the style into the kitchen but opted for this wider-plank option from Lumber Liquidators," she said.

Shop the look: Cement Tile Shop [Atlas I](#) (\$83/box)



Hands down, LaValle's favorite thing about the space is the customized cabinetry, create with [Omega Cabinetry](#). "Being able to specify cabinets from scratch is a pretty amazing thing," she said. "Our kitchen is incredibly functional for our needs because we got to make it that way. One of my favorite little features is a small narrow area to the left of the stove that we weren't sure what to do with," she explained. "Typically you would use it to store pot lids or baking racks, but I decided to make it storage for our barbecue tools and it was the best decision ever. There's never a good place to keep those things."

In such a gorgeous kitchen, LaValle's greatest finds reveal her meticulous attention to detail. "The hardware from [Rocky Mountain Hardware](#) elevates the space incredibly," she said. "They are the perfect finishing touches to the custom cabinets, and I love the way they patina," she added. In the breakfast nook, "I love how the shape of the Rex pendant light mimics the star pattern in the accent tile backsplash. It's little touches like that that make me happy."

Now that the space is complete, LaVelle is thrilled with how the simple yet stunning details all came together. "The sink is something I'm pretty excited about," confessed LaValle. "I really wanted to bring in that feeling of concrete somewhere in the scheme, and it looks gorgeous with the brass faucet."

Shop the look: Delta [Trinsic Single-Handle Pull-Down Sprayer Bar Faucet](#) (\$380); [Native Trails Farmhouse Apron Kitchen Sink](#) (\$1341)

