



MODERN CRAFTSMAN

Photography by **ANGUS FERGUSON**





THE MATERIALS

- White-oak slatted feature wall
- Maple-veneered cabinets
- White-lacquered cabinets
- HanStone countertops
- Glass backsplash
- Limestone floors

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The extra-long 13½' island provides prep space and an additional seating area, where homeowner Giselle Evans and her family enjoy casual meals and the kids do homework. The kitchen space flows seamlessly into the dining area, where the ceiling disappears and natural light pours down from a skylight. **Design,** Superkül; **cabinets and woodwork,** Andrew Johnston Woodwork; **HanStone countertop fabrication and installation,** United Marble.

HOUSE & HOME



Architects Meg Graham and Andre D'Elia.

THE BACKSTORY Homeowner Giselle Evans, who shares her Toronto home with two children, a dog and a cat, needed to rethink the design of her kitchen as part of a larger home renovation. This included relocating the kitchen from the second floor to a larger, more open area at ground level and moving the stairs, which had previously divided the space. With tons of storage to eliminate clutter, the kitchen's modern minimal look celebrates exquisite details and fine craftsmanship. Its lines are long and elegant, while natural materials like stone and wood keep the space from feeling sterile.

THE WISH LIST Giselle wanted a simple streamlined space that felt connected to the rest of the house and the outdoors where the family could cook and hang out. Because the home is long and narrow, and the kitchen area is partly below grade, pulling natural light into the space was paramount.

THE SOLUTION Superkül architects Meg Graham and Andre D'Elia integrated the kitchen into the redesign of the whole house with a skylit three-storey atrium over the dining area, where light streams into the space. A staircase that abuts the dining area is encased in a slatted-wood wall, giving a feeling of enclosure yet transparency. "I really love that wall," says Giselle. "The way the light changes there is so beautiful, you don't even need any art." The strong vertical elements of the wood slats play off the horizontal lines of the kitchen cabinets, leading the eye toward the garden.



A discreet narrow wine fridge suits the family's needs without overwhelming the space. *Sub-Zero wine fridge, Tasco.*



Every item in this kitchen has its place: when open, pocket-style cabinet doors tuck invisibly into the wall.



Light cascades from above onto the slatted-wood wall, which camouflages the staircase leading to the second floor. A dramatic feature like this requires no more adornment than a simple large-scale centrepiece on the table. *Oak balustrade wall, maple staircase, Andrew Johnston Woodwork.*

Recessed lights along the staircase wall create a dramatic ambience in the evening. The wall of glass at the rear of the house makes the backyard feel like an extension of the kitchen. A sleek stainless-steel hood vent doesn't interfere with sight lines. Space is kept open and breezy from the front of the house to the back for maximum flow. **Windows, Applewood Glass & Mirror; Miele range hood, cooktop, Tasco.** BELOW LEFT: Large modern pendant lights float ethereally in the three-storey atrium above the dining area, where nothing else competes with the beauty of the slatted-wood wall and the natural stone floors. **Pendant lights, Artemide.** BELOW RIGHT: Stacking both wall ovens in one spot allows for an uninterrupted flow of cabinetry in the kitchen. The smaller oven is a steamer, which has become Giselle's favourite appliance. "I use it all the time because it's so easy and there's no mess!" she says. The 1" horizontal profile of the countertops is repeated in the reveal beneath each drawer. The lack of hardware lets the eye focus on the beauty of the simple but elegant materials.



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Unadorned cabinets complete the modern aesthetic

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