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A team of designers used color and texture to take this Virginia kitchen from good to great.

BY RABEKAH HENDERSON

PHOTOGRAPHY BY STACY ZARIN GOLDBERG

Tip

IF YOU USE NATURAL WOOD AS AN ACCENT COLOR, DON'T BE AFRAID TO INCLUDE MULTIPLE HUES ON THE WALLS, FLOORING AND IN FURNITURE SUCH AS BAR STOOLS.





Texture to **Talk About**

The home's stunning millwork was a great place for Winn Design + Build to start from.



Even when your home has character, it doesn't hurt to add more. This historic Sears Craftsman home in Alexandria, Virginia, was filled with plenty of color and texture before the design team of Winn Design + Build even stepped in the door. But by using the home's details as a starting point, designers Stan Khramov and Jennifer Hall were able to amplify the existing beauty of the home with a picture-perfect, farmhouse-friendly kitchen.

COLOR CHOICE

The kitchen's color is a far cry from classic farmhouse white, but that decision was made for a reason. "The home has a lot of wood elements and stained millwork," says Winn Design + Build owner Michael Winn. "We wanted to maintain the feel of it." This was done by selecting a cozy shade of green that both the designer and client liked. "We were looking for options on the warmer end of the color spectrum that would blend well with the existing millwork," says Michael.

TONS OF TEXTURE

Texture plays just as important a role in a space as color does, and Winn Design + Build had more than a few tricks up their sleeve for this kitchen. The glassy backsplash contrasts perfectly against the matte marble countertop, and the woodgrain, "both in the millwork and the cabinetry, offers additional texture," says Michael. One of the unique textural details of the kitchen is its hand-painted cabinets. They have a custom finish and bring a down-to-earth feel to the polished space.

WARM AND WELCOMING

The intentional color and textural choices make the space feel welcoming, which is Michael's favorite element. "The kitchen has a lot of warmth and natural light," he says. "It lends itself well to entertaining, and it's a very inviting space."

»»» SEE SOURCES, PAGE 128. «««

(top) Houseplants throughout the kitchen add pops of bright green that play off the more muted green of the cabinetry.

(opposite, top left) The eye-catching details of pieces like the rug, backsplash and steel range hood tie the space together.

(opposite, top right) The kitchen's beautiful views of the backyard help make it feel open and inviting, along with the large windows and tall ceilings.



PICKING YOUR KITCHEN Color Palette

With seemingly endless options, finding a kitchen color palette you like can be a frustrating task. But it doesn't have to be—here are some of designer Michael Winn's favorite picks.

CLASSIC WHITE. Light, bright and airy, the color white is a farmhouse classic for a reason. But make sure to include a colorful backsplash or a unique countertop to add warmth and texture. Without additional elements, "white can look a bit cold," says Michael.

MODERN GRAY. "Gray has been popular for a while," says Michael, and it's another key neutral you can base your design on. Gray is the perfect way to introduce color into your kitchen without going overboard. Gray cabinets also pair well with houseplants, making your kitchen feel lush and calming.

DEEP BLUE OR GREEN. Vivid and rich, blues and greens in your kitchen are an easy way to make it feel unique and inviting. "We're starting to see more blues and greens [in kitchens]," says Michael. It's a great way to bring warmth to a space, and as long as you focus on one main color throughout, it shouldn't feel dark or overwhelming.