

# Living Large in a Small Kitchen

Rethinking the layout of our cramped kitchen resulted in a space that's as good-looking as it is hardworking. **BY JESSICA THUSTON**



Features Editor Jessica Thuston and her son, Tripp, enjoy reclaimed space achieved by removing a tall cabinet.

**I**n its former life, my kitchen was cramped, suffered from an awkward layout, and felt completely cut off from the rest of the house. (Back in the 1920s, when the house was built, people weren't usually concerned with having an "open floor plan.") Remodeling our kitchen was a long process, but I can honestly say that it has changed the way my husband, Dixon, and I live in our home.

In planning our renovation, we had three main goals: add as much storage as possible,

create the illusion of extra space without adding a single square foot, and stick to a budget without sacrificing style.

To maximize storage, I knew I had to change the layout of the room and placement of appliances. Creating a galley was an efficient use of our limited floorspace. On one side, we placed the range, sink, and dishwasher, and on the other, we designed a wall of floor-to-ceiling cabinetry built around the fridge. My favorite feature is a tall cabinet equipped with sliding drawers that hold all of our small appliances—



*Before*