

SPRUCE STREET Inviting embellishments



A trio of sidings accents this downtown home's form: mixed-width hardwood, stucco and cedar shingles.

Meticulous planning maximized the interior and exterior space for this eclectic home on a half-acre lot in downtown Steamboat Springs where Butcher Knife Creek ambles through the property. Huge retaining walls had to be built prior to starting home construction, as well as having to work around a 100-foot pine tree with an expansive root system. In the process, the owners even left room for the Taj Mahal of backyard chicken coops.

In contrast to a typical compact and stacked downtown home, this home features a main level master suite that is separated from the public spaces. Doors from the master bedroom lead onto the back patio, and a 4'x4' skylight hovers over the bed with the option of a remotely-operated blackout shade. Glass garage doors turn the car park into what might be mistaken for gallery



Custom steel knee braces vary around the outside of the home.

The bunk room has a built-in play loft.

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A leathered granite countertop showcases a soft, matte grain and makes the surface feel more like concrete.



A real wood fireplace includes a heated hearth bench.

Random mixed species of wood create a focus wall in the bedroom.

space with lots of clean storage, a terrazzo dog bath and a granite work bench.

The home's three-element siding includes reclaimed hardwood in random widths, cedar shingles and pool-troweled stucco with its rough, craftsman effect. An EPA-approved wood-burning fireplace has a stone hearth that extends outward with built-in hydronics for warm seating and built-in drawers for games and blanket storage. Upstairs, a large bunk room has a walk-in closet to put things out of the way and a play loft with a custom iron ladder.

The kitchen looks toward the back patio by which a waterfall tumbles into a small pool and curved metal staircases gently transition from one patio level to the next.

Kitchen windows meet at the corner to make the space feel as expansive as possible, while the enticing mix of traditional and modern elements includes a single-basin farmer's sink, a custom copper hood, a 48" dual-fuel stove, glass tile backsplash and white cabinets bearing thick glass shelves. The walnut island with its leathered granite countertop and copper prep sink makes an idyllic spot to cook, socialize or simply watch the backyard birds.

HOME & LANDSCAPE DESIGN

Brian Hanlen, Brooks Design/Build

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COUNTRY LIVING



Red and white kitchen cabinets contrast with the home's reclaimed wood doors and trim made from former Heinz vinegar factory barrel staves.

This home includes a kitchen to match the view from an 11-acre lot that overlooks the South Valley. Best characterized as Western Gothic, the 5,400-square-foot house also has a four-stall horse barn and an outdoor riding arena. The larger home's design is a blend of traditional details along with features that might be typically seen in a more rustic structure. Reclaimed elements include the timber frame, white oak wood floors, and wood interior doors and trim made from former barrel staves from the Heinz vinegar factory. These features are juxtaposed with the kitchen's painted cabinets to suggest traditional detailing and proportions.

The kitchen is a synthesized design. The doors are simple raised panels, drawer fronts are slab, the crown is a large cove crown, and any of the "legs" or embellishments are based on shadow lines so as not to overwhelm the kitchen user with unnecessary detail. The effect is balanced and proportional compared to its more intricate Victorian or neo-traditional cousins, but distilled.

The kitchen floor is travertine with a chiseled edge set in a Versailles pattern. Cabinets are soft maple that have been painted – off-white on the perimeter and red on the island – and lightly distressed and glazed with a rub-through. The perimeter countertops and backsplash are granite, and the island countertops are Carrera

marble. The main sink is stainless steel, while the prep sink is a cast iron farmhouse variety. A 48-inch dual-fuel range with matching hood insert, 36-inch refrigerator and fully integrated dishwasher with wood panels round out the top-shelf appliances. Adding function to the beautiful form, the pantry is outfitted with fully adjustable stainless steel shelving.



Reclaimed Douglas fir timber frame creates the home's Western Gothic character.

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