

Kitchens + Baths

HOUSE & HOME
SPECIAL ISSUE

#MAKEOVERS
BEFORE & AFTERS YOU'LL LOVE!

129 Ways to Get Your Dream Kitchen

TILES, FAUCETS, PAINTS,
APPLIANCES & MORE!

POWDER
ROOMS
WITH WOW
FACTOR

“We Survived
a Renovation”

Real Homeowners Share Their Stories

Display Until August 21 \$11.95



www.houseandhome.com



Turn to p.96 to
tour the dreamy
kitchen on
our cover.



Decisions, Decisions

NOTHING INSPIRES MORE EXCITEMENT — and Pinterest-induced confusion — than a new look for your kitchen or bathroom. Whether you're planning an everything-must-go renovation or a few quick-and-easy updates, there are more great choices than ever, from faucets and floors to tubs and tiles. But that also means *making* a choice is harder than ever. And yes, I speak from experience. When I decided to rip out my circa-1990s kitchen almost 5 years ago, it was the backsplash tile that kept me up at night. I loved the *idea* of taking a risk, of covering an entire wall with patterned tile, but the thought of actually doing it played into my design-commitment issues. Maybe they'd be too bossy? Maybe I should stick with classic white subway tile instead? I finally placed the order, knowing these tiles would either be my Nancy Meyers-esque crowning moment or my biggest regret.

What I learned is this: There are no satisfaction-guaranteed decisions. Do your research, trust your taste and go for it. Of course, *H&H* is here to guide you through the process. We've filled this issue with gorgeous rooms and new products to help you create the kitchen or bath of your dreams, or spruce up the space you've already got. As for my tiles? I still feel happy every time I look at them. No regrets.



Inside my kitchen: The wall of hand-painted tiles was a risk that paid off (pewh!)

Beth

Beth Hitchcock, Editor

A PERFECT ENDING

BACKSPLASH

The wall of 2" x 4" subway tile was inspired by the restaurant Farmshop in Santa Monica, Calif.

TABLE

This artisanal piece was made of wood reclaimed from an old train station. Its greyed finish resembles driftwood



Inspired by a favourite movie, a photographer designs the beachy kitchen of her dreams.

Photography and styling by Tracey Ayton

WINDOWS

Real wood mullions give the room period-perfect charm



The Backstory

Take one glance at Tracey Ayton's classic, light-filled kitchen, and it's not hard to guess what inspired the design. "Oh, I can't even count how many times I've watched *Something's Gotta Give*," she says. "I would pause it and study every detail in that kitchen."

Two years ago, she got a chance to put those viewing hours to work when she and husband, Jay, purchased this circa-2003 house in Boundary Bay, B.C. The couple decided to sell their Vancouver home and "cash out" of the rising market, giving them the opportunity to start afresh in the quaint beach town near both of their families.

Tracey and Jay designed the kitchen themselves, with help from architectural designer Jennifer Heath and Tracey's brother, Dave Ayton, who acted as contractor-carpenter. On their wish list? White cabinets, plenty of windows and abundant storage for Tracey, a photographer who often uses the kitchen as a home studio.

With the renovating and decorating complete, Tracey now has her own happy ending — just like the movies. "Honestly, it's about as close as I could possibly get to my dream house," she says.

STARTING FROM SCRATCH

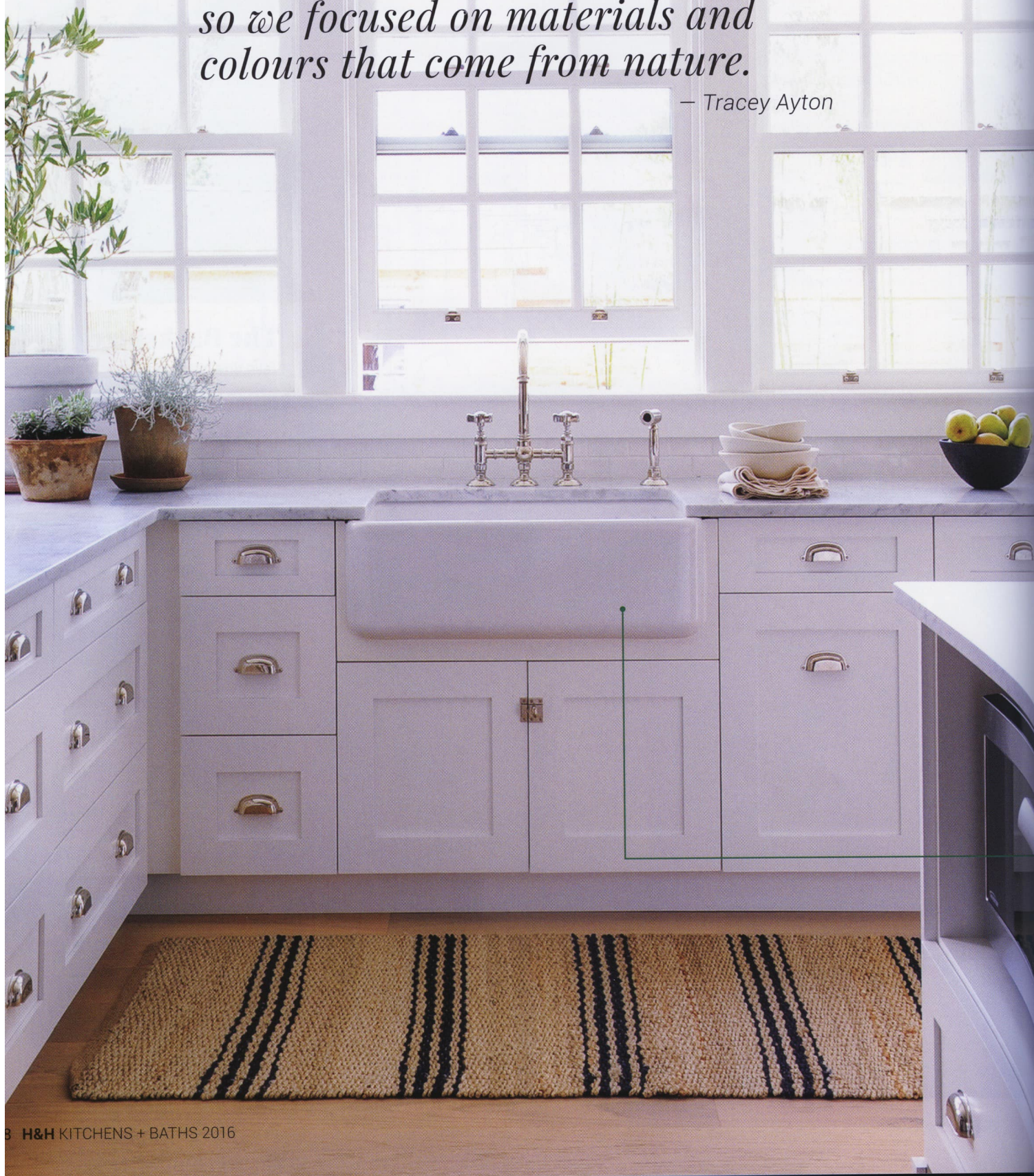
Here's what Tracey did to create the kitchen she craved:

- **Added 8'** to the back of the house to give the kitchen more breathing room
- **Installed** new wide-plank white oak flooring
- **Planned** for plenty of storage, given that she didn't want upper cabinets
- **Selected** honed marble counters
- **Decorated** with a beachy feeling to capture the spirit of her waterfront neighbourhood

Cabinets, Marr-Tech Kitchens; **flooring**, South Side Flooring & Rugs; **pendants**, Kerrisdale Design; **table**, Hand One Design; **chairs**, Country Furniture.

*I don't like anything that feels fake,
so we focused on materials and
colours that come from nature.*

— Tracey Ayton





Timeworn Details

Antique silverware and a collection of rustic wooden spoons give the kitchen patina, especially when placed in vintage ceramic crocks. **Bowls**, Atelier St. George.

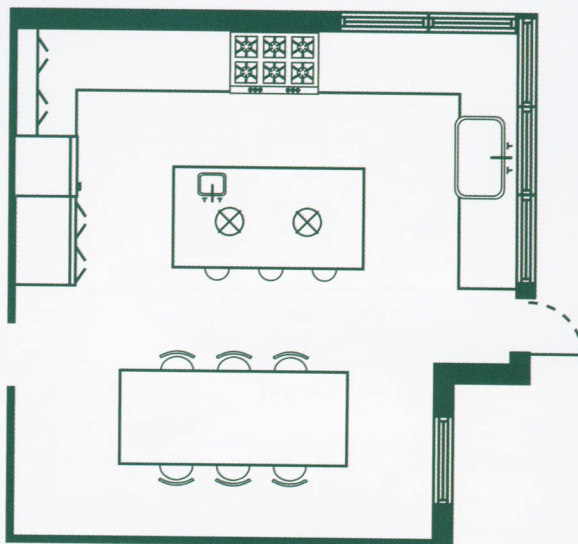
Bright Corner

A trio of plants, including a miniature olive tree, brings the outdoors in. "I just love the silvery-green colour of the olive leaves," says Tracey. **Plants**, Mandeville Gardenworks.

Farmhouse Sink

"From day one, I imagined a sink in front of a wall of windows," says Tracey. A striped jute runner by Dash & Albert adds a focal point on the floor, while single-hung windows with old-school hardware complete her vision. Hand-thrown bowls by Vancouver artist Janaki Larsen create a calming still life. **Windows**, M.R. Windows; **faucet**, Rohl; **runner**, Gild & Co., **bowls**, Atelier St. George.

The Floorplan



Pantry Wall

Pale grey paint and vintage-style latch hardware sets the wall of cabinetry apart from the rest of the kitchen. The room's only uppers house Tracey's mother's china collection. "I don't use it everyday, but the china has sentimental value, and I wanted it to be stored properly," she says. **Fridge**, KitchenAid; **hardware**, Martha Stewart; **espresso maker**, Williams-Sonoma; **KitchenAid mixer**, Hudson's Bay; **white bowls and plates**, Crate & Barrel; **clay planter**, Celsia Florist; **pottery bowl**, Atelier St. George.



RANGE HOOD
*Applied panelling
enhances the room's
traditional style*

ARTWORK
*Tracey blew up a
still-life photograph taken
by friend and former
neighbour Pia Gemma
and printed it on bamboo
textured-paper to give it
the feel of a watercolour*



CABINETS

*The Shaker-style cabinets are
painted Oxford White (CC-30) by
Benjamin Moore. Polished-nickel
cup pulls have timeless appeal*