

# THE PANTRY

EVERYTHING IN ITS PLACE

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*Airy Pantry.* Woodwork might not be at the top of your list when you design your dream home, but this stunning butler's pantry demonstrates how well-designed, built-in storage and classic details can transform a small pantry space to look elegant and feel timeless.

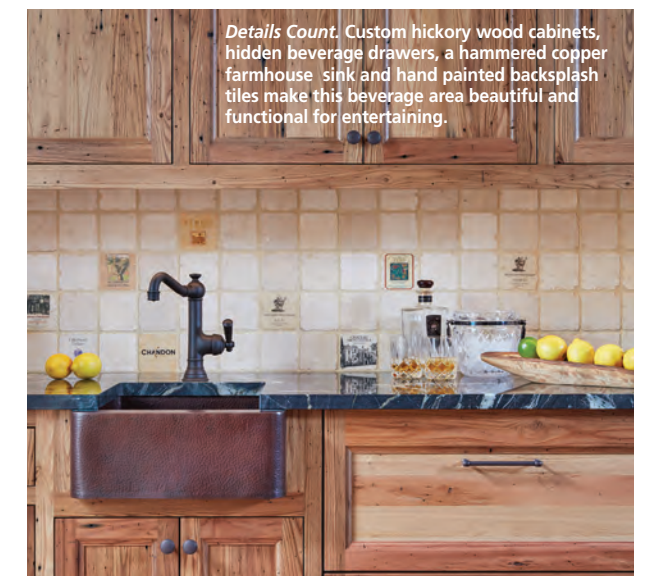
Long gone are the days of keeping extra stuff in the garage, the basement, the hall closet or a second-floor bedroom. Through my 60 year lifetime, I've seen the lonely pantry space evolve from the walk-in utility closet with equipment, food stuff and cleaning supplies jumbled together to a highly-organized system with great purpose. As women's lives have become more complicated having to both work and raise children, their tolerance for chaos has radically reduced. Today, everything needs to have a place, arranged to make sense, specifically positioned to have purpose. It is in these methodized behaviors that we (women) find our rest. Surrounding and integrated into our lives is enough "out of our control" experiences. Within our safe home, we can control the chaos of our environment through strategically, very purposeful built elements.

The twenty-first century brings truly beautiful and elegant solutions to storage issues. Excellent organization is to be shown and admired. The pantry is no longer to be hidden but rather celebrated in its perfectly arranged presentation like a trophy! Stunning curved open shelves lined with neatly arranged product, a white porcelain farmhouse sink with Perrin and Rowe faucet, a sleek Liebherr backup refrigerator, stainless steel sliding baskets for onions and potatoes all seen through a closing glass pocket door celebrating the public view of the pantry. Now that is true joy.

With the evolution of the closet pantry, so has come a change to the traditional butler's pantry. What used to be a space that



*Butler's Bar.* You may not have a butler in your home, but a separate bar and serving area will make hosting a breeze. Gather, lounge, and sip on a glass of wine in an adjacent dreamy window seat with a view.



*Details Count.* Custom hickory wood cabinets, hidden beverage drawers, a hammered copper farmhouse sink and hand painted backsplash tiles make this beverage area beautiful and functional for entertaining.





*Bold and Beautiful.* Custom pantry cabinets with a bold color palette serve up incredible contrast and drama in this extended kitchen. A unique chandelier adds unexpected style and adds a candle-like warmth to this space.



served only the formal dining room, the butler's pantry is now more like a "back" kitchen. A space that holds additional appliances for mass-entertainment and stores countertop-cluttering machinery. A second dishwasher, a second refrigerator, an ice maker, a specialized coffee machine, a bread machine, a juicer, and maybe even a La Cornue Flamberge rotisserie in baby blue no less! Oh my. The La Cornue is even more exciting than a new car!

Classic materials such as Carrera or Calacatta marble are used for countertops and backsplashes. Or the newer trend of concrete or leathered granite with glossy wood grain or glass tiles bring a fresh vibe to the space. Trough-hidden LED lighting the thickness of scotch tape casts warmth across displayed items. Stunning polished nickel or antique brass hardware provides a decorative element. Flooring in Chicago brick or Belgium limestone brings a unique feeling to the space. Sometimes, a tall pantry cabinet actually leads to a hidden storage or wine room.

Also, generally gone are the days of

basement bars. The whole wine and bar experience has come in to or along the edge of the kitchen and near the family room. It is because this is where we entertain. We don't hang out anywhere else; we have evolved to allow the bar to be a part of this area. Sometimes, all elements are hidden behind custom wood cabinet doors. Other times, everything is celebrated with glass-front interior-lit wine coolers, one for red and one for white. Additional glass cabinets with decorative mullion patterns display glassware and other liquors. Under-cabinet beverage centers hold beer and soda in organized slots. Everything has a place. And near or along this bar area may be a built-in seat with storage hidden under the cushions or a drink rail for standing around and celebrating.

The way to a man's heart, they say, is through food. Well, the way to a woman's heart is through creative storage solutions! These beautiful little vignettes throughout the house bring us women so much joy. We relish in their public presentation of order and rest in their beauty.

Born and raised in Virginia, **Cathy Purple Cherry** ultimately landed in Annapolis where she grew a large architectural firm specializing in high-end custom homes and estates. A talented architect, visionary, and three-dimensional thinker, Cathy is able to marry clients' dreams with the reality of the built environment. Cathy's intense love for the mountains has always been deeply rooted in her, and as such, Cathy is passionate about extending her 27-year old practice through DC and down the range to Charlottesville. She and her husband are building their second home, which they will one day retire in on Ennis Mountain. While Cathy revels in the intricate design opportunities presented by high-end residential architecture, Cathy is equally passionate about her philanthropic efforts and her work serving the special needs community through the firm's Purposeful Architecture studio.

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