

SPLURGES IN THE KITCHEN APPEAL TO BUYERS

Kitchens exert a gravitational pull on most households by serving as the social and organizational center of daily life. This is also true when prospective buyers tour a house: They are drawn toward the kitchen. It makes sense, then, to treat the ProHOME kitchen—especially the cabinets and countertops—with higher-quality finishes than other areas in the house.

The spare frame-and-panel-style cabinets lend a traditional flair to the kitchen. This is reinforced by the solidity, heft, and craftsmanship of the Crown Point Cabinetry 3/4-in. plywood boxes and 5/4 Douglas-fir doors. There's a touch of modern too, in the frameless style and simple polished-nickel hardware. The glass panels in the upper cabinets flanking the kitchen window accentuate the natural light and the visible storage is an opportunity for the homeowner to add a bit of color or personalized style.

The lower cabinets are topped with a substantial 3-cm-thick soapstone countertop. In addition to fabrication and installation, the supplier, M. Teixeira Soapstone, offers several degrees of DIY counters from precut, unfinished slabs to fully fabricated ones. Because the kitchen walls were framed with Weyerhaeuser's LSL studs, the crew was confident the walls are straight and saved on templating fees by emailing the length and depth measurements of the cabinet runs for fabrication. When the slabs were delivered, they fit well enough that the backsplashes were a formality—there were no gaps along the wall to hide. The soapstone counters were given a coat of mineral oil to help them develop a patina, but they don't need any maintenance as they're impervious to stains from liquids and hot pans.

Cabinet storage is supplemented by a large pantry closet and the generous kitchen dimensions easily accommodate a table.



FOLLOW THE BUILD

AIR BARRIER



Sealed on the inside. The *Intello Plus* acts as both an air barrier and netting for the blown-in cellulose insulation, and the strapping ensures flat drywall.

ROOFING



Dried in. Zip System sheathing and tape dries the roof in early. A synthetic underlayment adds an additional layer of protection before shingling.

VENTILATION



Taming the tubes. One of the carpenters cuts the Zehnder duct tubes to length before connecting them to the manifold.



Beginning with *FHB* #268, we've been exploring the theory and logic behind our latest demonstration home. Be sure to visit FineHomebuilding.com/prohome regularly to watch the construction of the house unfold and to hear expert insights straight from the design/build team.



WATCH our multipart video series highlighting every important step of the project.



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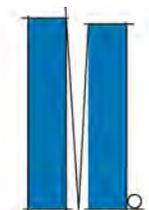


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Boral **TruExterior**
Siding & Trim



ELEVATING THE STANDARD

Crown Point Cabinetry

Crown Point Cabinetry manufactures high-quality, all-wood custom cabinets in Claremont, N.H. Crown Point Cabinetry has a direct sales model emphasizing value to the customer. Their shop-based designers work with builders, architects, designers, and homeowners to design and build cabinets for kitchens, bathrooms, home offices, and bars in period and traditional styles, all backed by a 10-year warranty.

