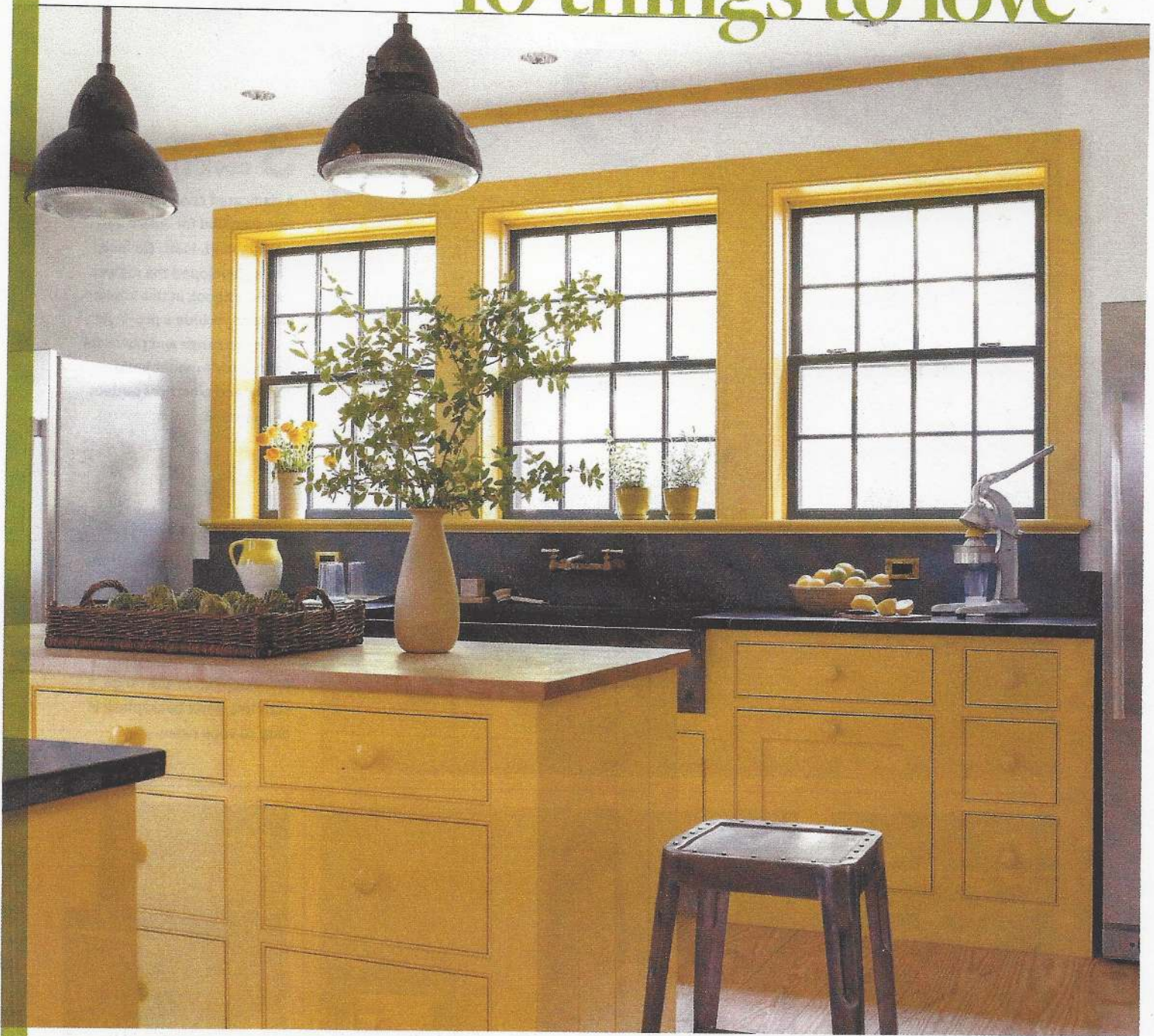


10 things to love



Sunny Delight

A happy hue, loads of natural light, and chef-friendly features energize this Connecticut utility kitchen.

writer KATIE RYNARD photographer JOHN GRUEN
field editor ANNA MOLVIK

1 golden glow

Easily the first thing you notice about this kitchen, a cheerful yellow dresses the cabinetry. "It creates the look of a warm, sunny country home—just what we wanted," homeowner Jessie Sheehan says.

2 shaker simplicity

Shaker-style cabinets were a must-have for the Sheehans, who appreciate their transitional look. The cabinets' simple styling lets the yellow finish be the star.

10 things to love



3 cook's nook

A dedicated cooking zone, *left*, was essential for Jessie and her husband, Matt. (In fact, Jessie developed the recipes for a cookbook in this kitchen.) Features include a pro-style induction range and powerful hood, a wall-mount knife caddy, and electrical outlets on each side.

4 smart surfaces

Nonporous, dense soapstone slabs form the perimeter countertops and offer a utilitarian look. The island's butcher-block top is ideal for chopping. At the range, a stainless-steel backsplash is easy to wipe clean.

5 good flow

Wide walkways, *right*, provide clearance for busy cooks, and the central island serves as a landing spot for both the range and the sink wall. The black door opens onto gardens for an indoor-outdoor connection that's important for Matt, an avid gardener.



6 island ingenuity

Designed for meal prep rather than seating, the island, *left* and *above*, offers abundant work space on top and storage in its base. The microwave also tucks under the countertop so it's accessible yet out of sight.

The yellow paint “creates the look of a warm, sunny country home—just what we wanted.”

Jessie Sheehan,
homeowner

7 sloped sink

A deep soapstone trough sink with a slanted front, *right*, is ideal for rinsing off after spending time in the garden, prepping fresh-cut plants and flowers, and cleaning pots and pans. The wall-mount faucet, made of recycled materials, preserves counter space.



8 closed storage

An armoire-like cupboard, *right*, lends timeless appeal. It corrals and conceals dishware and glasses, which stack neatly on the interior shelves. The Sheehans favor stand-alone units and appliances for their lived-in, classic look.



9 clever contrast

Cool accent colors, including the charcoal countertops and sink, black window sashes, and white walls, temper the kitchen's warm yellow and offer standout style.

10 cold front

A roomy freestanding fridge, *left*, and freezer (*not shown*) bookend the sink wall. The spacious units store fresh ingredients, trays of recipe creations, and other homemade goodies.