



SPECIAL FOCUS:
**Kitchen & Bath
Design**

CREDITS

Architectural and interior design:
Rafe Churchill and Heide Hendricks,
Hendricks Churchill Houses & Interiors

Interior design: Kathryn Fagin, KJ Designs

Builder: R.C. Torre Construction

Photography: Amanda Kirkpatrick

GOIN' UP THE COUNTRY

Architects frequently speak of “volume,” but when six-foot-five Rafe Churchill stepped into the kitchen of his client’s antique cape, the need for more head-room took on a personal dimension. Dropping the floor eight inches (there were already several level changes in the oft-remodeled house) solved the problem of the kitchen’s low ceiling; to increase floor space, Churchill pushed a wall out six feet to accommodate a bank of windows and a row of soapstone-topped base cabinets. The remodeled kitchen’s soapstone sink, unlacquered brass hardware,

walnut-topped island, and simple board backsplash are signatures of Churchill’s sophisticated farmhouse style. In this project, he collaborated with builder R.C. Torre, who handled the shape-shifting, and interior designer Kathryn Fagin, who weighed in on the kitchen’s muted palette and helped guide the clients’ input. “They didn’t want to get too far away from that farmhouse feel,” she explains, but at the same time were looking to introduce a minimalist, almost Scandinavian flavor. The silicone-shade pendants by Muuto that hang over the island were found by the client, whose enthusiasm made the project all the more satisfying. “It’s nice to design a space someone’s really going to live in and love,” Fagin says.

