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Photos by JASON STEMPLER

NO ONE GOES HOME-SHOPPING WITH A VISION OF A DARK, closed off kitchen that doesn't flow with the rest of the house due to a jutting angled wall. But that's what one Daniel Island family ended up with and they were eager to change.

Enter Parker Masterson, a design consultant at Classic Remodeling & Construction on Johns Island.

"The layout of the house, before we started, almost made the kitchen an afterthought," said Masterson. It was far from ideal, especially considering current design trends."

Masterson knew an enclosing wall had to go, and go it did. She then came up with a design that replaced it with a cased opening into the dining room, which made both spaces more open, and had a large island constructed for the busy family that called it home.



Two kids and two burgeoning medical careers means scant time to get together at the formal dining table, and more family meals eaten in the same spot where the kids could work on school homework projects. Hence, the island.

And thanks to the new flow and lightness, the dark dining room no longer resembled a tucked-away office space.

Additionally, Masterson's plan called for a "flip-flop" of the kitchen's layout, moving major appliances and relocating the sink. And to top it all off? Removing the bay window and replacing it with a new, extended exterior wall that replaced dead space with more usable room for the expanded, lighter kitchen.

Now, the oven range backs up to a glisteningly simple white tile backsplash, framed by two windows that pour in light. Incorporating glass was a theme throughout the new kitchen, which took 15 weeks to complete while the family lived and ate upstairs during the progress.

The wife used to have a hobby in glass-blowing, which drove the decision for the glass tile backsplashes. More so, she wanted to have handblown custom pendants installed throughout much of the kitchen.

For a seamless flow, Masterson championed extending the same wood flooring from the rest of the first floor into the new kitchen, tying the glossy and new to the existing.

The end result: A light-filled, airy and expanded kitchen, replete with a new island and connectivity to the rest of the house, with surfaces that you want to run your fingers along to see just how smooth and cool they really are. Simply unforgettable.

