

# COUNTRY LIVING

DECORATING | ANTIQUES | COOKING | CRAFTING | GARDENS

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the season

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BEFORE

## starting over

**A**fter the hurricane, many residents who evacuated, such as Beth Treuting Hall, had to wait three weeks to return home. During that time, the standing floodwaters caused major damage to the furnishings, walls, and floors throughout the first level of Beth's home. As a lifelong New Orleans-area resident, Beth never thought of leaving. Her four siblings rallied to her side, including her Raleigh, N.C.-based sister, designer Ann Nicholson, who served as project forewoman. Tasked with renovating on a tight budget, Ann brought supplies and furniture from home and found ways to cut costs. The family looked at this catastrophe as an opportunity to help Beth de-clutter and refresh her décor.



AFTER

### THE KITCHEN: A FUNCTIONAL, LIVABLE SPACE

#### FLOORING

The flooring on the home's first level needed to be removed due to extensive water damage. Wood laminate flooring's easy maintenance, durable finish, and lower price point made it an ideal choice for the kitchen and den.

#### OPEN SHELVING

In a money-saving and decorative move, Ann selected Ballard Designs' Cafe Shelving in lieu of upper cabinets to display Beth's ironstone. Due to low inventory in area stores, she bought many items from online retailers.

#### COUNTERTOP

Ann chose terra-cotta floor tiles for the counter and backsplash to carry out her color scheme. The tile was a quick and affordable option, as solid surface countertops were on back order at stores and priced much higher.



## thrift + creativity = a custom look

**To create storage in the kitchen for Beth's collection of brown and white transferware, Ann built a step-back cabinet by making use of supplies that were readily available.** • **Stock cabinets** form the upper and lower storage. **Shallow upper cabinets with glass doors** create the step-back look. **Ann painted the cabinets, then applied a colored wax to produce an aged finish.** • **Corbels, brackets commonly found on New Orleans homes and porches, visually connect the two pieces.** • **A yellow pine board serves as the countertop.** She stained the board, then applied the wax to match the cupboards.