

In the Western HOME

TIPS FROM
THE EXPERTS

PAST MEETS PRESENT

David Froehlich and Jason Castleberry had been kicking around all kinds of scenarios for the remodel of their character-filled early 1920s Edwardian in San Francisco when they finally nailed down solid wish lists for the transformation of their kitchen and bathroom. The couple called in architect and designer Tom McElroy (mcelroyarch.com) to bring their vision for timeless spaces to life. He started by unifying the kitchen's sliced-up floor plan, which was comprised of separate spaces for the sink, laundry, and mudroom. Then, with a blank 246 square feet to work with, McElroy layered on the cooking-obsessed couple's must-haves, including copious amounts of cabinetry and counter space, a roomy island for friends to hang out at, and new appliances and fixtures, all while staying in step with the home's cozy appeal. In the bathroom, a graphic tile pattern that riffs off vintage patterns and water motifs anchors the space. Here's how McElroy reimagined traditional design for the next century. —*Chantal Lamers*



GLASS PANELS ECHO THE HOME'S ORIGINAL BUILT-IN CABINETRY.

SUBTLE GREEN VEINING PICKS UP ON THE CABINETRY PAINT.

ADD THE RIGHT TOUCH

"We loved the charm of the existing house, so we tried to keep the same feel with the renovations," says Froehlich. "We used unlacquered brass hardware to age over time, marble counters that would etch to add character, subway tiles but square for a more modern look." *White Wash subway tiles, from \$15/sq. ft.; fireclaytile.com.*

MAKE IT FLOW

Because the mudroom and laundry at the rear of the kitchen had lower ceilings, turning three spaces into one seamless kitchen took careful consideration. To make it feel continuous without altering the exterior of the house, McElroy opted to vault the sink and laundry areas, which created a sloped ceiling.

MIX AND MATCH

To contrast with the room's bright, natural light, the couple chose Benjamin Moore's deep Narragansett Green for the cabinetry. McElroy suggested the couple mix in some wood tones (they settled on walnut) to break up the bold hue. "I wanted to make it appear less bulky or [like] a room full of cabinets, and adding a second material helped to do that," he says. *Paint, benjaminmoore.com. Massey Bin Pulls and Vernon cabinet knobs, from \$10; rejuvenation.com.*

LIGHT THE WAY

"The low-profile shadeless bulb provides a little pop of light without being too heavy on the narrow strips of wall between the windows," says McElroy. "The porcelain base is reminiscent of fixtures originally seen in older homes like this one, so it was a good style fit too." *Alabax Small Sconce, \$119; schoolhouse.com.*

JUST ADD BOOKS

Open shelving for showcasing and easy access to the couple's beloved cookbook collection was a happy surprise, once McElroy discovered the exterior wall jogged inward and a continuous two-foot counter wouldn't be an option. "We mostly accumulated the cookbooks together, and some are old family cookbooks from each of our families," says Froehlich. "Everyone comments on the cookbook collection when they see the kitchen."

A LONG NICHE THAT RUNS THE FULL LENGTH OF THE SHOWER HOLDS PLANTS AND SHAMPOO BOTTLES.

BATHROOM UPDATE

Albeit romantic, stepping in and out of the original claw-foot tub felt impractical to the couple. Removing it called for a reshuffle of the small space, starting with creating the ultimate serene open-shower area.

TAKE A CUE

The shower floor's ombré pattern was inspired by Froehlich and Castleberry's love of swimming. "I thought the ombré was like walking into the ocean," says McElroy. Weathered Coast Story 3-in. hexagons in Calcite, Carbon, Cyclone, Dusty Blue, Gypsum, Morning Thaw, Nautical, and Salton Sea, from \$35/sq. ft.; fire claytile.com. Thomas Hook, \$24; school house.com.

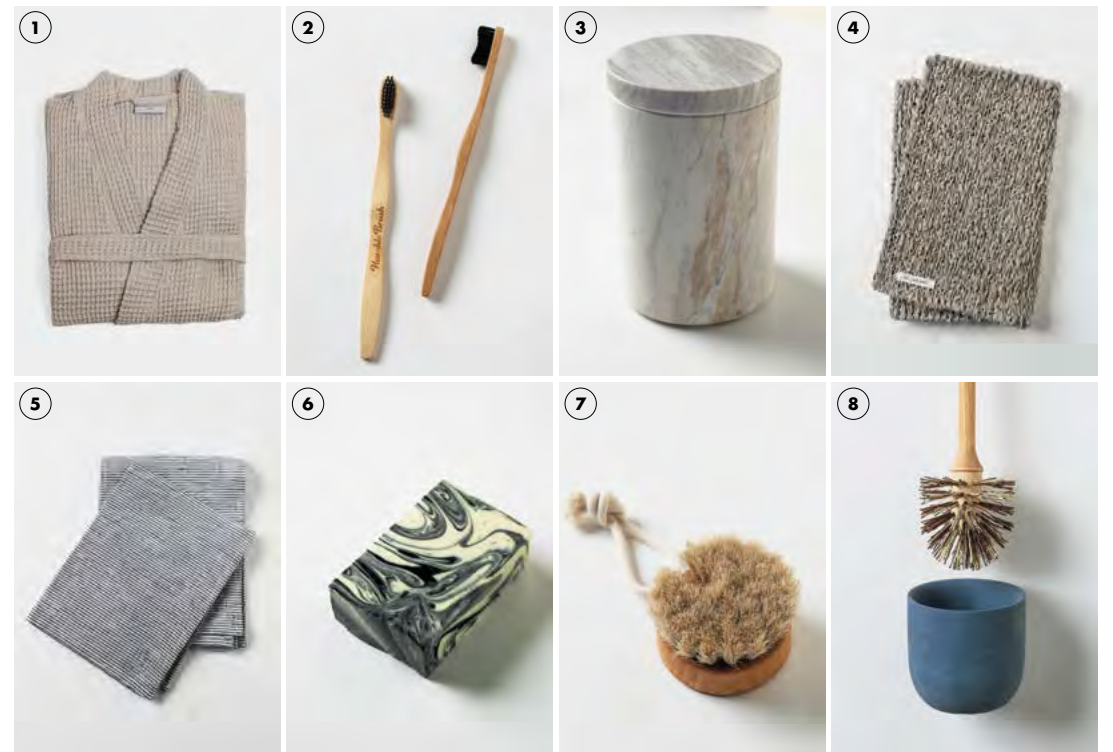
ALMOST ALFRESCO

The double-hung window with a lower sill was swapped out for an awning window, which is cleaner and simpler to operate and also situated much higher in the wall for privacy. Still, Froehlich says when the frosted window is ajar, it's like taking an outdoor shower.

INSTANT MAKEOVER

For a quick bathroom refresh, choose a mix of natural, textural, and subtly hued accessories.

1. WAFFLE ROBE \$119; parachutehome.com
2. THE HUMBLE CO. TOOTHBRUSH \$5; anthropologie.com
3. LARGE MARBLE CANISTER \$20; containerstore.com
4. LINEN KNIT FLOOR MAT \$68; shop-foglinen.com
5. WHITE SEERSUCKER HAND TOWELS \$15; shop-foglinen.com
6. PACHA SOAP CO. CLARIFYING CHARCOAL MARBLED SOAP \$24/lb.; wholefoods.com
7. ROUND BODY BRUSH \$26; trouva.com
8. IRIS HANTVERK BIRCH WOOD TOILET BRUSH AND CONCRETE CUP \$61; amazon.com



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