

COUNTRY COLLECTIBLES PRESENTS #54  
**DISTINCTIVE**

**BEST VALUE DESIGNS**  
EXPERTS SAVE YOU \$\$\$

# Kitchen

**DOUBLE ISSUE!**

## SOLUTIONS

**NEWEST  
LOOKS  
for 2010**

**GREEN DESIGNS  
FOR A NEW  
GENERATION**

**WHAT SELLS  
HOMEBUYERS?**

# 52

**BRILLIANT  
KITCHENS  
& BATHS**





PHOTOS: JEFF VOLKER, JLV ENTERPRISES



# authentic hacienda flavor

MEXICAN TILES, WROUGHT IRON AND A "HAPPY" GREEN ISLAND REFLECT THE SOUTHWEST LOCALE

## WISH LIST

- Mexican hacienda style with plaster and tile detailing
- Heavily distressed rustic pine cabinetry
- Professional-quality appliances

When Travis and Julie Rushing decided to retire to Prescott, Arizona, great thought went into the location and detailing of their new home's construction on a two-acre site with spectacular views. Though an interior designer who planned to continue working, Julie knew not to go it alone in designing their home. She hired two of the area's top professionals—architect Bill Otwell of Otwell Associates Architects in Prescott and kitchen designer Elizabeth Spengler of Dorado Designs in Tucson—and asked for a home that would reflect its Southwest locale. For the kitchen, the couple wanted a large room where they could cook and entertain in a seated breakfast area, at a counter and near a traditional kiva-style fireplace.

To give the room authentic flavor, the design team and the Rushings incorporated ceiling beams made of ponderosa pine vigas with saguaro rib latillas between them; a Venetian plaster fireplace hood in its natural ocher color with metal clavos; handcrafted Mexican tiles on perimeter countertops, many walls, backsplashes and the floor; and wrought-iron detailing that shows up in a big pot rack and on decorative trim above the window over the sink. The decorative trim came from a Mexican door panel that was taken apart and reworked to fit its new locale; the pot rack was designed by Laura Lee Designs in Burbank, California, but crafted in Mexico. Julie Rushing was so adamant about being authentic that she selected Mexican Talavera and Saltillo tiles as well as a mural of a village designed for behind the range, her husband's idea. Her majolica pottery, crafted by potter Gorky Gonzalez, fit the Mexican-style theme. And though she's a collector, her well-honed eye makes her periodically edit out something when she adds something new. "Otherwise, I'd risk having too much," she says.

To fit the rugged look, the designers selected pine cabinetry with a mix of wood and wrought-iron pulls. The refrigerator was recessed into a wall because of the beams' placement, and storage garages were used to conceal small appliances, leaving more counter space available. To avoid having the room look too heavy and perhaps kitschy, Rushing asked Spengler for some contrasting hues, including a "happy" green island at the center and a green-painted antique Hoosier hutch. The collaboration worked so well that the homeowners nicknamed their designer "Elizabeth."



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Numerous materials and elements combine to give the kitchen its Southwest feel, from a wrought-iron pot rack to handcrafted Mexican tiles.

ABOVE FAR LEFT: A tiled mural behind the range adds interest.

ABOVE LEFT: Open cabinetry adds color, due to the owners' collections.

**KITCHEN DESIGNER:**

Elizabeth Spengler  
Dorado Designs  
12490 N. Rancho Vistoso Blvd.,  
Suite #100  
Tucson, AZ 85737  
520-618-2300  
doradodesigns.com

**INTERIOR DESIGNER:**

Julie Rushing  
Design 360 Inc.  
208 S. Montezuma St.  
Prescott, AZ 86303  
928-443-0978  
bydesign360.com

**ARCHITECT:** Bill Otwell  
Otwell Associates Architects

121 East Goodwin St.  
Prescott, AZ 86303  
928-445-4951  
otwell-associates.net

**LOCATION:**  
Prescott, AZ

**DIMENSIONS:**  
14' x 17'

**>>> SPECIAL FEATURES:**

Cabinetry integrated into niches;  
"Happy" green island; Antique Hoo-  
sier hutch; Wall with professional  
range and tiled mural backsplash,  
designed by husband/homeowner

**PRODUCTS USED:**

- Cabinetry: Draper-DBS
- Refrigerator/freezer: Sub-Zero

- Countertops: Island, Spekva, Iroko; perimeter, Talavera tiles, handcrafted in Mexico, distributed, Mexican Handcrafted Tile, San Diego
- Range: Wolf
- Warming drawer: Dacor
- Dishwashers: Asko
- Pot rack: Laura Lee Designs, Burbank
- Floor: Saltillo tiles, from Mexico