

Charlotte

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HOME

DESIGN & DECOR[®]

Kitchen & Bath

PLUS:
KITCHEN
CONFIDENTIAL

COLOR CRUSH:
LOVELY LILAC



AN EARLY DOWNSIZE

By Beth Keim
Photography by Mekenzie Lori

I often think that letting go of a big house sounds appealing—a patio as opposed to a yard, smaller rooms, less to take care of and manage.

The challenge is fitting all the items you want and need into a more compact space. Such was the case with this renovation. But the result is one of my favorite designs.

The home had one long and hard-to-decorate family room and kitchen combined. The homeowners wanted a lot of seating and dining space for multiple people.

First and foremost, we used a similar color scheme to give the space a calm ambiance. And we didn't clutter the

room with furniture—a large sofa and four smaller swivel chairs fit nicely.

The dining area was the next challenge. With the help of two great craftsmen, Josh Utsey and Terry Stikeleather, we created a long banquette with a tall and impressive back and paired it with a narrow custom dining table equally as long. The width of the table allowed for multiple place settings. And when combined with stools as opposed to big chairs, the passage opened up. Not only is this dining space big enough for ten people, but it's also great for laptop work or simple party overflow.

To make a long space like this perfect for all of its functions and not too crowded, it's all about balance, height, and using like colors. ♦





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