

# New England HOME

CT

Celebrating Fine Design, Architecture, and Building

## Rooms With Zest

Carefree living doesn't  
mean scrimping on style

## STARTING FROM SCRATCH

Superstorm Sandy damaged scores of homes in the Westport area, some so badly that the only recourse was to rebuild. Fortunately, architect Matthew Dougherty helped these owners find a silver lining. Maintaining the home's original footprint, he designed a new family nest with a super-workable kitchen starring a blue-as-a-summer-sky La Cornue range. "The range was our starting point, and from there we added lots of features," Dougherty explains. With windows on three sides, pale Carrara marble counters, and a marble backsplash, the compact 280-square-foot room feels twice its size. A bounty of white cabinets boosts functionality, as does the island that doubles as a place for meals and a serving station for entertaining. Brass hardware and brass fixtures at the farmhouse sink speak to the hood's distinctive brass detailing and, says Dougherty, "pull everything together." The herringbone-pattern white oak floor and shiplap ceiling interject texture, while a generous opening to the adjacent family room—flanked by the fridge and freezer, which hide behind handsome paneling—enhances circulation. And for a bit of extra warmth, a wood-burning fireplace with a rustic fieldstone surround casts a glow on every happy gathering.

### CREDITS

**Architecture:** Matthew R. Dougherty  
Architect

**Builder:** Tiefenthaler

**Photography:** Jane Beiles

