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NATASHA BARADARAN MAKES
HER MARK ON AN ART-FILLED
FAMILY HOME IN BRENTWOOD

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FRENCH DRESSING

Mindy Gayer creates a chic kitchen with Gallic flair.

Keeping an all-white kitchen interesting can be a challenge. On one hand, the palette makes sense for retaining resale value, plus, you won't run the risk of it going out of style. But on the other hand, will it be boring? Orange County interior designer Mindy Gayer tackled this issue with gusto in a Costa Mesa family home. Although the overall color scheme is neutral and the theme transitional, contemporary touches keep the room from seeming stale. "This was a kitchen we were asked to remodel and redesign," says Gayer. "Many of the original elements were left in place because of bones [that] were in great condition and aesthetically in line with our new design direction. We wanted the new kitchen to reflect a mix of a traditional and modern bistro, playing off stainless steel appliances and chrome fixtures, alongside a traditional beadboard ceiling treatment and cabinetry details." Gayer achieved her goal by incorporating sleek pendants and rustic stools from Restoration Hardware; a clean quartz countertop; appliances from Fisher & Paykel and bistro chairs from Serena & Lily. Says Gayer, "In lieu of the trend towards brass and darker paint finishes, we updated this once-pistachio green kitchen with crisp white and neutral hues, allowing the nickel fixtures and finishes to pop, juxtaposing the bright whites with matte black cabinetry hardware." Talk about timeless!

To achieve a clean and timeless aesthetic in this neutral Costa Mesa kitchen, designer Mindy Gayer kept many of the room's original bones in place. "From there we incorporated some updated design elements to freshen up the space and elevate the look of the original design," she says.

