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# Japanese Flair and Function

## DESIGNER

Michael Gotowala  
Preferred Properties  
Landscaping and Masonry  
1456 Highland Ave.  
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## SPECIAL FEATURES

Made-to-order Danver cabinetry, sunken cabinets to preserve the view, Japanese flair infused in the style, pop-up TV

## PRODUCTS USED

Cabinetry: Danver  
Sink(s): Soapstone  
Lighting: Preferred Properties  
Landscaping and Masonry

## PHOTOGRAPHER

Michael Gotowala

WITH A PRIME waterfront property, these homeowners wanted to make the most of the views just outside their door, and an outdoor kitchen was the perfect solution. Aside from ensuring the vista was kept in sight, the owners' goal for the new space was for it to convey a very distinct design style. They wanted an open-flow floor plan, plenty of integrated function, and a good dose of Japanese flair in the aesthetic.

All these elements needed to come together in an exact manner for the discerning homeowners, and Michael Gotowala was the man for the job. As principal designer and president of Preferred Properties Landscaping and Masonry, Gotowala was up for the challenge and had the experience needed to build on the inclined lot.

A deck grounds the outdoor kitchen, while made-to-order cabinetry by Danver frames the perimeter. The cabinetry is fully customized and packed full of features. The contemporary style

is complemented with a custom slate gray coloring. The long middle stretch of cabinets is sunken 8 inches off the site line to leave wide-open views to the water beyond. These also provide plenty of storage space for the custom pillow-cased furniture. Allowing a cushion to be put across the whole top for added seating really upped the wow factor, as well. A pop-up TV is built into the far left cabinet, adding another layer of entertainment. The offset location of the grill took the industrial look of the kitchen to the background, bringing the leisure aspect of the space to the forefront.

A soapstone sink and Bonsai plant were additional design features added by Gotowala. He finished the space with landscaping and lighting for the kitchen as well as the surrounding Japanese garden, koi pond, and golf green.

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