

## RUARD VELTMAN

Charlotte, North Carolina

Trained at Auburn University and in the offices of architect Bobby McAlpine, architect Ruard Veltman has brought a love of tradition with a thoroughly modern sense of space and design to Charlotte, North Carolina. In his work, whether it's in a kitchen or an entire house, there is a backstory that guides every decision, threading rooms together so they make sense from inside to out. He is a lover of details,

but he uses them sparingly, thinking as much about the addition of decoration as the lack of it. According to Ruard, "Every kitchen has to be a great space that drives the layout rather than letting the appliances determine everything. Designers and homeowners worry about the appliances so much, they can lose the sense of space."

### ➤ FAUCET

"We used the Franke Bridge faucet. We love its scale on an island, particularly one this large—8 x 8 feet. It's discontinued, but this is a good substitute," says Julia Wood. *Rohl/Perrin & Rowe (U.4719L) in polished chrome; rohlhome.com*

THE CRACKLE FINISH GIVES THE TILE A SENSE OF AGE, WHICH COORDINATES WELL WITH THE BUFF FLOORING FROM PEACOCK PAVERS.

### ◀ IRON SCONCE

"It has a clean-lined design with an old-world feeling, which is what the range in the alcove is all about," says Julia Wood. "A sconce near a range is a luxury because we like using downlights for practical reasons, but the sconce gives softer light, which is necessary when you're entertaining." *Gothic Wall Sconce, dennisandleen.com*

### ▲ PAINT COLOR

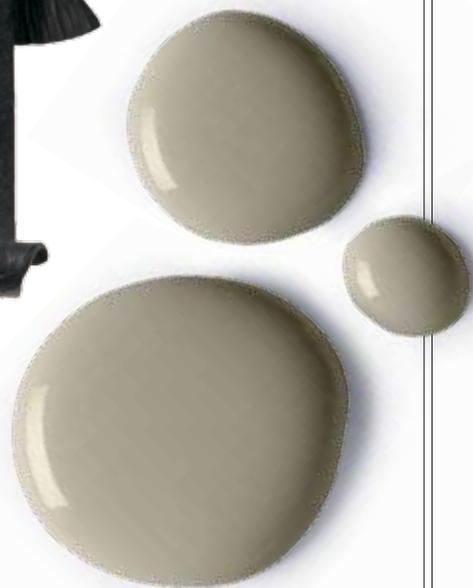
"It's a pleasant, neutral color with a good mix of earthy green and brown/dark gray undertones," says Eugénie Gibbens. *Wildwood Crest (1538) oil paint in satin finish; benjaminmoore.com*

### ◀ RANGE

"The style has been around awhile, and chefs love it because of how well it works," says Ruard. "But there's something else. It is a stand-alone piece of furniture that you love to own, like having a beautiful French antique in your kitchen. The black color is classic." *Lacanche range; frenchranges.com*

### ▲ BACKSPLASH

Ruard says, "The subway tile almost disappears; the function is most important, not the decoration, which goes with the story that this kitchen is telling." *Gramercy Park 2-x 6-inch tile in a running bond pattern in Heirloom White; walkerzanger.com*





## CLASSIC KITCHEN

Ruard Veltman and Julia Wood worked with New Orleans designers Ann Dupuy and Eugénie Gibbens on the old-world yet modern space. "I've seen this kitchen in action, and it maintains the flow of a party, even if there are wall-to-wall people," explains Ruard. "It celebrates cooking with a hearth in an alcove, conveying the sense that it was once a fireplace."



## ULTIMATE LUXURY

This master bath has all the basics that go with a rustic setting—wood walls and floors, pedestal sink, simple mirror—but the treatments elevate them to true luxury. Shiplap is finished smooth and painted so the effect is a rich texture, and the high-gloss floor creates an elegant contrast. The tub filler, installed in the ceiling, makes taking a bath an indulgent experience.

