

ENGLISH MANOR

ARCHITECT

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PLAN SIZE

House living area: 5,800 sf  
Porches: rear 292 sf; front 127 sf  
Garage: 1,260 sf  
Width: 97 feet, 6 inches  
Depth: 80 feet, 2 inches

Start with planning first. Look at how supporting functions such as a pocket office or a large pantry will relate to the core functions. Think through the relationships to larger spaces such as dining and living. Only when these items have been established and planned carefully is it time to rock the finishes.

Are grand kitchens just about surfaces and materials? How about, quality, color, and finish? No. Those are elements of a grand kitchen, but in order to truly make a kitchen grand the room has to be properly planned. I travel regularly all over the country to work with builders, and I see far too many kitchens that have great features with wonderful color palettes but simply do not work. If a kitchen's floor plan is not functional, dramatic, and the core of the design, there will be no way to decorate grandness into it. The kitchen demonstrated today is a current kitchen, designed for today's higher-end buyer that takes advantage of many satellite spaces to become a cornerstone of the home.

- A The sunroom off the dining creates a retreat space that brings the outdoors in.
- B With three walls of cabinetry, this kitchen has an abundance of storage.
- C The walk-in pantry goes beyond a Costco pantry and contains a fridge, with all of the appliances plugged in and ready to go, as well as mega storage space.
- D The family entrance has all the goodies, cubbies/bench lockers, and huge walk-in family closet, as well as front-loading washer and dryer for incidentals (the workhorse laundry room is on the second floor).
- E The kitchen has two islands, an 8-foot working island and a 12-foot serving island.
- F The kitchen is wide open to a massive informal dining and great room space.
- G A nice-sized office is located directly off the kitchen for a convenient place to keep bills, paperwork, etc. This space can be closed off when entertaining.

