

## Firm Offers Pet-Friendly Service

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**DENVER, CO** — Kitchen design has gone to the dogs...well, at least at Colorado Kitchen Designs.

“We’re very pet friendly and regularly bring our dogs to our showroom,” says Jill Ellis, owner of the firm. “Not only do they greet clients, but they work as a built-in alarm system to alert us of people entering.”

While the firm has remodeled home offices, laundry rooms, entertainment centers, mudrooms, craft rooms and common kitchen and bath areas, it has extended its pet-friendly philosophy by designing dog grooming stations and nooks for pet meals.

It is, however, the firm’s dogged approach to establishing longstanding relationships with allied professionals that has led to its success.

“Our ability to communicate effectively has resulted in a successful referral-based business,” says Ellis.

### Humble Beginnings

What began as a home-based business in 1988 has grown into a firm with three designers, including designer Triniti Williams and Ellis’ daughter, Christine Ellis, AKBD, who also serves as showroom manager.

Colorado Kitchen Designs has accumulated a very diverse portfolio over the years. In fact, half of its projects have been completed in areas where the homes are often more than 100 years old.

Ellis says the firm has also developed a large clientele from the local Jewish community by specializing in Kosher kitchens. They have even designed a kitchen in Japan, commissioned through a Japanese builder.

### Best in Show

For Ellis, Colorado Kitchen Designs’ 1,200-square-foot showroom is a perfect opportunity for the firm to achieve “best in show.”

“It’s important that our clients feel comfortable in our showroom,” she explains. “When you walk in you hear friendly dogs barking, announcing your arrival. We even have past clients who stop by our showroom every time they are in the neighborhood simply to see the dogs!”

The firm’s product selection, however, is what really makes the showroom stand out.

“We specialize in providing cabinetry for all areas of the house, and offer a variety of product lines,” Ellis says.

The company carries lines from WoodHarbor Doors & Cabinetry, Holiday Kitchens, Legacy Debut Cabinetry, Bertch Cabinet and Shiloh Cabinetry, as well as countertop products, including Silestone, Okite, Zodiaq,



**The pet-friendly attitudes of owner Jill Ellis (top) and designers Christine Ellis, AKBD (left) and Triniti Williams (right) have led to jobs that give the firm a competitive advantage.**

CaesarStone, Cambria and Chroma.

“If the client needs someone to supply cabinetry, we can easily provide it,” says Ellis. “If the client needs someone to help pick out every element of the space, such as paint, tile or countertops, we are able to provide these services as well. We put a lot of energy into making sure our contractors receive materials on time and create designs that work.”

With regard to appliances and plumbing supplies, the firm refers its clients to an appliance or plumbing showroom in the area.

“The most important factor is staying in budget while making sure the client is happy with the results,” she says. “At Colorado Kitchen Designs, it is our job to direct them to products and designs that will enable them to fulfill their dream project.”

## **Colorado Kitchen Designs**

### *At a Glance*

**Location:** Denver, CO

**Principal:** Jill Ellis, owner

**Showroom:** One, 1,200 square feet

**Hours of Operation:** Monday – Friday, 9:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m., and by appointment

**Number of Employees:** Three

**Major Product Lines:** WoodHarbor Doors & Cabinetry, Holiday Kitchens, Legacy Debut Cabinetry, Bertch Cabinet, Shiloh Cabinetry, Silestone, Okite, Zodiac, CaesarStone, Cambria, Chroma and Eurostone

**Design Specialties:** Remodeling

**Design Software:** 20/20 Design, Photoshop

**Business Philosophy:** “To provide clients with a smooth design process as well as a final space that they can enjoy for many years to come.”

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