

THE Report

LUXE LOOKS AT THE KITCHEN TRENDS SURE TO COOK UP EXCITEMENT IN 2017.

WRITTEN BY MICHELLE BRUNNER

CENTER STAGE

The heart of the home is not exempt from changing tastes: Kitchen design reflects how people live, and that's constantly evolving. The ongoing popularity of the open plan has transformed this hardworking room into a performance space in itself. It's fitting, then, that this lovely kitchen by Peek Architecture + Design is situated in an apartment that occupies what was once part of an old theater. It's a fine example of how color, customization and materials are coming together to create highly detailed, bespoke spaces with big drama. On the following pages, take a look at the elegant upgrades we can't wait to bring to our own kitchens this year.

For this spectacular space by London-based Peek Architecture + Design, an on-trend mix of brass, Carrara marble, antique mirrors and deep-blue cabinetry creates a sophisticated kitchen unit that sits well in the historic space and allows the ornate plasterwork to shine.



1 bench MARK

When it comes to sex appeal, a cozy corner banquette certainly trumps a breakfast bar. An upholstered nook evokes the glamour of dining out without actually having to leave one's home, but, more importantly, it encourages one to slow down and sit—even for meals on-the-go. Inspired by her clients' love of Belgian design, Minneapolis-based designer Kate Roos opted for a freestanding piece in this family kitchen. "The hand-tufted navy blue bench rests on quarter-sawn white-oak legs to keep it feeling light," she says. Gray cabinetry, marble countertops and brass accents complete the space's warm European aesthetic. kateroosdesign.com



2 RANGE OF POSSIBILITIES

Even novice home cooks want to know: What features do pros and serious foodies look for in a stove? "I'm all in favor of models with a range of heat—big BTU burners and also ones that simmer well," says expert Mark Bittman, author of the *How to Cook Everything* series. One method of cooking that's been heating up over the last couple of years is induction. The cooktop's two biggest selling points are high heat and a low constant simmer. To satisfy demand, Italian company ILVE is introducing a brand-new 36-inch and a 40-inch induction range this year, like the one shown here. ilveappliances.com

4 BALL & CHAIN

Pendant lights in the kitchen continue to evolve from purely functional to all-out fashion statements. For evidence of this trend, look no further than the Dolma chandelier from designer Windsor Smith for Arteriors. Combining a Byzantine influence with modern geometry, the light features polished-brass hexagons that form a lacy globe suspended from a delicate chain. Whether hung in multiples over an island or as a singular fixture over the sink, the open basket-weave design is sure to throw artful shadows throughout your home. arteriorshome.com

THIS PAGE: OPEN FLAME PHOTO: DUSTIN ANSLIND; BALL & CHAIN PHOTO: COURTESY ARTERIORS; OPPOSITE: BENCH MARK PHOTO: ANDREA RUGG; RANGE OF POSSIBILITIES PHOTO: COURTESY ILVE.

3 OPEN flame

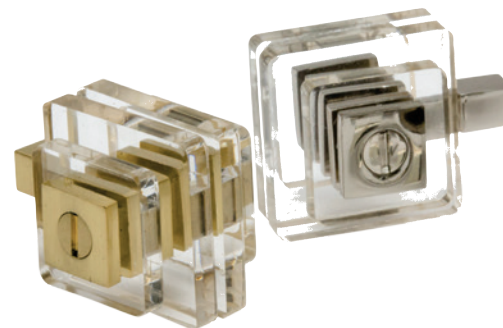
For the kitchen of this Brooklyn town house, New York architect Elizabeth Roberts knocked out walls on the parlor level of the home to create an open floor plan. "The clients are avid cooks and wanted a place where they could socialize with guests while preparing food," she says. Clear sight lines also ensure that all eyes are on one of the space's most unique features: a year-round wood-burning grill with an adjustable rack. Navy blue tiles from Heath Ceramics surround the grill, making it as sleek as it is practical. elizabethroberts.com



5

MIDNIGHT SPECIAL

There's a reason why black is the first choice for cocktail attire. It's perennially chic, goes with virtually everything and easily hides spills. Now apply those attributes to the kitchen, and you can see why a noir cookspace, like this one from San Francisco designer Catherine Kwong, holds so much appeal. "I wanted to create an area that was moody and glamorous, but also able to withstand a lot of use," she says. Hardworking materials like jet-painted cabinets and brickwork subway tile set the scene, while unexpected elements like flathead screw detailing on drawer fronts and a vintage bronze mariner's sconce add shine and contrast. catherinekwong.com



6

TOTAL *transparency*

Just as the right accessories elevate an ensemble, beautifully crafted knobs and pulls add polish and interest to your cabinetry. For these Art Deco-inspired pieces, designer Jessica Ahnert Davis of boutique hardware company Nest Studio proves she isn't afraid to mix materials, combining chrome or brass joinery with acrylic. The knobs' notched design recalls the retro lines of old-fashioned radios and microphones while simultaneously maintaining an edgy, contemporary vibe. nest-studio-home.com

7

GILDED AGE

With backsplashes seemingly growing bolder and more luxurious by the minute, the hunt is on for tile that delivers on both fronts. Offering a modern take on the Roaring '20s' love for gilt and glam, the Gatsby mosaic from TileBar combines Nero Marquina and white Thassos marble in a lively geometric pattern with crisp, brass linear accents: No wonder it's named for the character who embodies the style and decadence of the era. tilebar.com



8

HOT seat

Kitchen stools tend to skew more utilitarian than glamorous. Not so with the Geisha barstool from Koket. With textured velvet upholstery that calls to mind on-trend shibori prints, it offers a perch that is both plush and posh, and its gracefully curved arms and sleek, polished-brass legs bring a new level of luxury to island dining. bykoket.com

THIS PAGE: TOTAL TRANSPARENCY PHOTO: COURTESY NEST STUDIO; GILDED AGE PHOTO: COURTESY TILEBAR; HOT SEAT PHOTO: COURTESY KOKET; OPPOSITE: MIDNIGHT SPECIAL PHOTO: BESS FRIDAY.



9 TOP BRASS

How does one soften the interior of a modern concrete house? Why you throw it a curve, of course! That's what Australian architecture firm Auhaus did in the form of a sculptural, statement-making range hood. Rendered in brass, the dual-cylinder design provides a striking contrast to the room's clean lines. Using wood paneling on the ceiling and cabinetry brings warmth to the palette, and heavily veined marble provides plenty of eye-catching pattern. auhaus-arch.com

10 FUTURE FORECAST

THREE TOP DESIGNERS TALK ABOUT CURRENT KITCHEN TRENDS AND SHARE A FEW PREDICTIONS FOR THE YEAR.



KAREN WILLIAMS
ST. CHARLES OF NEW YORK

What's the biggest trend you're seeing? We're slowly moving away from total open-plan kitchens by finding ways to delineate spaces with architectural separations or a change of floor pattern. We're also seeing more walk-in pantries for storage. **Any must-have upgrades?** Luxury finishes, beautiful chandeliers and fixtures, ranges in high-end materials, even luxury hardware—you see, touch and use these things every day. Kitchens see a lot of use, so people have come to view these touches as a worthy investment. **Up next?** I think there will be more personalization and an influx of interesting materials in the kitchen, such as new finishes and exotic veneers. Be on the lookout for more mixing of metals and darker palettes, resulting in new levels of sophistication. stcharlesofnewyork.com



CHRISTOPHER PEACOCK
PEACOCK HOME

What is on your clients' wish lists? High-quality hardware in both classic and transitional styles is always important to our clientele. It is what brings the cabinetry to life and provides the mark of great design. **Is the era of the white kitchen over?** It's evolved. Spaces still use white, but we are consistently seeing large sections of the cabinetry painted with a strong color to break up the neutral look. More than ever, we are noticing islands or stand-alone pieces painted in dark gray, and many of our clients are choosing to use black high-gloss oil finishes on their cabinetry. I see a shift toward darker rooms with a more masculine mood. **Up next?** More glass elements and dark metals like bronze and brass, creating a very eclectic collection of materials in one setting. peacockhome.com



JESSICA HELGERSON
JESSICA HELGERSON
INTERIOR DESIGN

Share the biggest trend you're seeing. We try to avoid trends in our kitchens and instead have them architecturally reflect the houses they inhabit. I would rather be trendy with lighting and furniture, which is easier to replace. The worst-case scenario is to do the perfect kitchen for this year and then have it be... 2018! **What's your biggest challenge?** People live in their kitchens in a way they didn't in the past. We work on a lot of historic remodels, and it is always a question of how much we can open up the kitchen, incorporate seating areas, etc., without compromising the integrity of the house. **Open shelves or closed cabinets?** Both! Displaying a few objects nicely on an open shelf is great, but we usually try to place the refrigerator into a wall of cabinetry that conceals what you don't want to see. jhinteriordesign.com

THIS PAGE: TOP BRASS PHOTO: BEREK SHANUWELL; WILLIAMS HEADSHOT: ERIC VAN DEN BRULL; HELGERSON HEADSHOT: FRANKER FITZGERALD; OPPOSITE: WINDOW DRESSING PHOTO: TOMMY CROW.



11 window DRESSING

Many kitchens feature a window over the sink, but few do it with as much panache as this Alys Beach, Florida, home. For this project, Nashville-based designer Chelsea Robinson drew on the Moorish influence present in the rest of the house. A swooping pointed arch highlights the window, forming a focal point for the kitchen as well as a recessed bay for the sink area. "The juxtaposition of white plaster walls with dark cabinetry, warm brass finishes, Moroccan arches and a clay-tile backsplash create the perfect blend of modern elements and old-world patina," she says. chelsearobinsoninteriors.com