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Now that people are spending more time at home, kitchen and bath design has never been more important. With streamlined style and functionality top of mind, our pros have great suggestions for pulling off modern magic



FROM "SITTING PRETTY," JUNE 2020. PHOTOGRAPH BY TRIA GIOVAN.

# KITCHENS 101:



"Bold statements should be made clients coming to me in five years looks dated."

—Timothy Godbold

"With a bold color, make sure it's something you simply. I don't want can live with. It's one thing to look at it in a magazine, and another saying their kitchen when you wake up to it every day."

> -Janine Carendi MacMurray

"Clients' personalities usually match their color choices. People who are a bit more eclectic usually feel comfortable with more color."

-Cristina Peffer

"No matter what, make sure the hardware and the colors on the walls work together. There's a difference between color and noise. I like color, but when there's too much noise, it's disruptive." — Cristina Peffer

"If you're planning to sell your house soon, then it's best to err on the side of caution and go with a crowdpleasing white." -Michael Mezzano

### **EXPERTS**



'You can never get tired of a white kitchen. Use other elements—lighting, appliances, marble—to make it more interesting." -Janine Carendi MacMurray

# SMART WAYS TO



"Companies like Amuneal create suspended storage systems for glassware and dinnerware. You can mount them above an island, which is usually wasted dead space. anyway." —Timothy Godbold

"Save valuable counter space by affixing a paper-towel rack to the inside of a cabinet door."

-Michael Mezzano

"Plugging in and concealing appliances behind a cabinet helps you avoid cluttering the countertops."

-Janine Carendi MacMurray

cabinet for spices allows you to keep them in order

"I like having drawers and shelves hidden behind cabinet doors, along with additional organizational compartments. I grew up on a boat, so I know how important it is to use every bit of space for storage."

— Cristina Peffer



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### IS OPEN SHELVING STILL POPULAR?

The pros we spoke with all agree that open shelving is a great design element and can make a big impact in your kitchen. But know what you're getting into. "Open shelving can make a small kitchen appear larger, and you can also have fun with the backsplash," says designer Janine Carendi MacMurray, who adds that this scenario is best for "an organized person who doesn't cook much." Cristina Peffer suggests that it's a great option "for those who want to show off their collections of ceramics, glass, and metals," although Michael Mezzano cautions that "the shelves tend to get dusty and you can't cram things onto them, like you might in a cabinet." Decorator Timothy Godbold favors open shelves for their "easy access" and ability to "show off beautiful dinnerware," but also warns against "constant cleaning and maintenance."

COUNTERTOPS FOR EVERY BUDGET



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"Butcher-block counters require maintenance, but they add warmth to a kitchen."—Michael Mezzano



#### **MEDIUM:**

"Absolute rain-washed granite or black flat granite from Caesarstone both have longevity." —Timothy Godbold



#### HIGH:

"Statuary marble, or a marble with heavy veining."
—Janine Carendi MacMurray

# TOPFIVE WHAT CLIENTS WANT NOW

1 "More color—even clients who are color-shy are getting more adventurous lately."

- Janine Carendi MacMurray



2"Wood floors, which are always warm-looking against solid cabinetry."

-Michael Mezzano

3"Stainless-steel appliances and cabinet fronts, and generally surfaces that can take a beating, since so many people have been cooking at home recently." —Timothy Godbold



4 "The ability to interact with guests and family while they're cooking. Some even want kitchen islands with the stove facing out." —Cristina Peffer

5 "Walnut instead of white oak." —Timothy Godbold



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#### BATHROOMS 101:

## MAKE A BIG STATEMENT IN



"Keep wall tile simple, but try something more the floor to add interest. Carrying a pattern into a step-in shower also helps create the appearance of a larger space."

-Janine Carendi MacMurray

"Incorporate interesting millwork. In a small space, you can get funky and have fun."

—Timothy Godbold

"If there's enough open wall space, center the mirror instead of placing it directly above the Vanity." — Timothy Godbold

"Beautiful lighting is key, and it needs to be bold in order for it to have an impact." — Cristina Peffer



"A gallery wall of small canvases is unexpected and makes the room seem grander than it actually is."

-Michael Mezzano

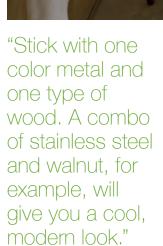
# MATERIAL GOODS:

"Natural stone always works against Wood, particularly teak." — Cristina Peffer

"Try granite or honed travertine for your countertops."

—Timothy Godbold

mix, but a want fake together."



—Timothy Godbold

"A stone slab can be really nice on floors." —Michael Mezzano

"Textured wallpaper juxtaposed against stone warms up a space that would otherwise feel cold with tile."

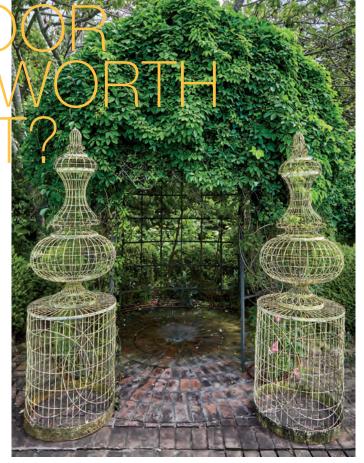
- Janine Carendi MacMurray



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"Absolutely. But invest in the right material, such as weather-resistant teak."—cristina Peffer





"There's something amazing about showering outside. Try using unlacquered brass hardware: The way its patina changes over time is really beautiful."

-Janine Carendi MacMurray

"Outdoor showers are good for the soul and great for rinsing off after coming back from the beach or before jumping into the pool."

-Michael Mezzano

KIDS' BATHROOMS: WHY SPOIL THE FUN?



"You can have a lot of fun in a children's bathroom without dumbing down the more permanent fixtures. A whimsical wallpaper or light fixture can easily be replaced in the future."

—Janine Carendi MacMurray

"Choose wisely.
If everything is too
young or thematic,
changes can be
expensive to make
later."—Michael Mezzano

"Keep two things in mind: functionality, for easy use, and longevity, so kids don't grow out of them. Give these spaces a level of sophistication that will last."

- Unsuna Pelle

# TOPFIVE WHAT CLIENTS WANT NOW



"Practical bathrooms that don't feel cluttered."

-Janine Carendi MacMurray

Great water pressure in the shower." —Cristina Peffer



Gradiant-heat floors, a simple palette, and an overall sense of calm."

-Michael Mezzano

4 "Lots of storage and ample countertop space."



—Timothy Godbold



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