8 Kitchens that Sizzle

+ expert insight on trends

Also inside...

2010 color trends
Improving indoor air quality
7 party-pleasing wine picks
Serving up Kitchens

Whether small or large, wood-toned or white, we love kitchens (and we know you do, too!), so we rounded up eight designers who showed us what they’ve been working on in the last year. We also talked to eight more professionals who told us about tips and trends for kitchens right now. Turn the page to find them all.
Designers: David Zebley and Geri Higgins, Portfolio Kitchen & Home

The Goal: To finish a newly constructed home’s kitchen in a way that’s functional and unique to the clients’ artistic expressions.

The Challenges: Working within the original footprint of the condo unit and integrating appliances, lighting, furniture and artwork already chosen by the homeowners.

The Result: Portfolio’s clients had already built their home but needed someone to carry out their creative ideas and integrate artwork. Using inspirational pictures provided by the client, David designed a transitional kitchen that is uniquely functional and that embraces art and color. “It’s not only the heart but the soul of the home,” Geri says. Focusing on creating simple sophistication, a flat slab door with horizontal grain is a refreshing welcome in this modern space. At the center is a granite-topped, U-shaped island, complete with a sink and dishwasher. The spacious custom white oak cabinets and deep drawers with organized compartments (also with horizontal grain) provide increased storage space on the inside, while on the outside, they feature contemporary hardware and under-cabinet lighting. David got creative around the built-in range, designing retractable doors above for a TV and a hidden hood, retrieved by pulling a small handle that pops it out like a canopy and away from the cabinetry to be seen only when in use.

Resources: Builder: Brookstone Development • Cabinets: Portfolio Kitchen & Home

Countertops and Hardwood Flooring: Kenny’s Tile & Floor Covering

Appliances: Factory Direct Appliance • Light Fixtures: Wilson Lighting Locks & Fans

PHOTOS BY JENNY WHEAT/WHEAT PHOTOGRAPHY