

Celebrating the *Heart* of the Home

by Janell Beals



Photography by Matthew Millman

In recent years the kitchen has become the central gathering place in our homes, with the renewed emphasis on sharing a meal at home. People are approaching the preparation of food as an activity around which families bond and as an enjoyable way to entertain. Prepping, cooking and eating: people sitting around the kitchen enjoying time together, celebrating through food and conversation.

Interior Designer Tineke Triggs, Principal of Artistic Designs for Living, knows this concept

Over the past several years she has

brought to life homeowner's visions for their kitchens through the spaces she has designed for her firms' clients.

In one such project, a spacious kitchen, eat-in area and butler's pantry were created through a 1,000 square foot addition to the back of a home located in San Francisco's Marina District. With four children, this family was in need of more room! The addition has provided this, with a design that has a fresh feel leaning towards the modern, while incorporating many traditional elements.



Interior Design by Tineke Triggs of Artistic Designs for Living



The traditional style cabinetry becomes modern through the details, such as the square lines of the feet. The same is true of the Calacatta countertops with their 2-inch square edge. These choices update the look while embracing the traditional elements desired by the client.

Because the kitchen is such a large space, Tineke needed to ensure there was a sense of warmth. To achieve this, the cabinetry was painted a soft beige (Benjamin Moore HC-83 Grant Beige), rather than white. This color brings out the warm tones in the backsplash, helping to create a more welcoming feel than white cabinetry would have.

A large family requires large appliances, and Tineke advises clients to spend more on the stove while cutting back on other appliances such as refrigerators and even dishwashers. A stove is the workhorse of the kitchen, says Tineke, and it needs to fit the cooking needs of the people using the space. The stove in this kitchen is the CornuFe in matte black from La Cornue. A custom hood by the same company that provided the cabinetry was a more budget friendly approach to completing the look and function than selecting a La Cornue hood.

Apart from desiring a functional space that would accommodate many people, the family also wanted an eat-in area that felt "loungy." A large round table provides this, as does the welcoming banquette sofa placed below the bank of windows that bring wonderful light into the room, even on a gray San Francisco day.

Tineke loves to make the focal point of a kitchen design the backsplash, running tile up to the ceiling when possible. In this kitchen she used a Michael Berman tile from Walker Zanger. The brick pattern has a lot of interest with its texture and movement, contemporary in design and feel yet remaining a classic.



*...the
traditional
becomes
modern...*



The large adjoining butler's pantry, a space that is making a comeback in design, is a versatile and beautiful addition to the home. Situated between the kitchen and dining room, it is a space designed for entertaining! A modern take on the wet bar, here all the supplies for parties are stored, along with the good china and glassware.

The design is "dressier" than the kitchen, serving as a transition between the kitchen and more formal dining room. Here the opposite approach was taken with colors and finishes. A darker butler's pantry verses the lighter kitchen provides contrast, adding to the success of the project.

A Moroccan tile from Ann Sacks adds tremendous interest to the room, running up to the ceiling on one wall. The eye-catching mosaic pattern in gorgeous browns and blues from the Medina collection is handmade by artisans.



Adding warmth: A wall of cabinetry with glass fronts is designed to look like a hutch.



Photography by Eric Rorer



Another successful kitchen design by Artistic Designs for Living is located in a small one bedroom condo situated on the top floor of a Victorian building, also in San Francisco. In Tineke's words, "It is a jewel box of a small kitchen!" This project was part of a kitchen and bath remodel that required keeping to a tight budget while maximizing functionality and beauty.

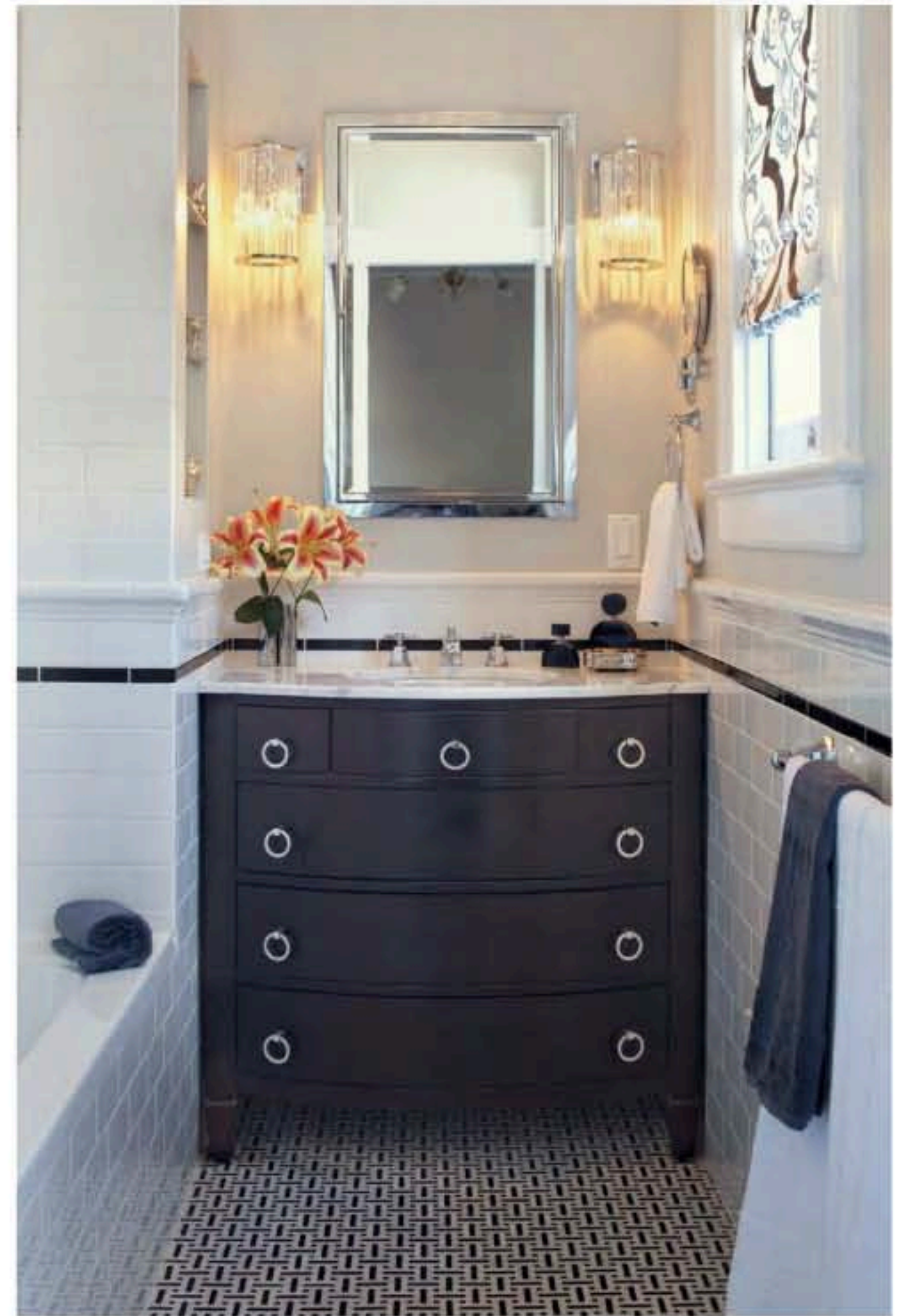
One of the outstanding features of this home is its high ceilings. In fact, they led to many of the design decisions for the kitchen. Cabinetry that nearly reaches the ceiling has a big impact, as does the addition of transom windows at the top of the already tall windows, bringing additional light into the space.



Inexpensive gray tile was a smart choice with its reflective quality and welcoming color, and the chandelier was a vintage find of the clients. The addition of pale yellow shades to the fixture brings in a touch of soft color.

A star of the kitchen design is the hood with its bands of stainless steel wrapping the edges. Applying actual bands of steel would have proven too expensive. As an alternative, stainless steel tape was adhered to the custom hood manufactured by the cabinet maker.

Without adequate space to bring in a true island, the stainless steel Ikea cooking table is a versatile solution. Depending on how the kitchen is being used, it can be moved to suit a cooking session or to accommodate guests when entertaining.



The sink area of the kitchen was designed to look like a hutch, adding a special and unique quality to the small space. The cabinetry with glass fronts, perfectly filling a recessed area, resembles a piece of furniture. This approach

was a natural solution when the set back was created through space planning solutions for the bathroom remodel, located adjacent to the kitchen on the other side of the wall.



Adding Charm: A vintage chair found on eBay was lacquered a pale yellow and upholstered in Imperial Trellis. A reproduction of the delightful 'Cakes' painting by Wayne Thiebaud creates a wonderful statement in the space.



Color Inspiration: Direction for the kitchen color scheme came from the dining room, which features cheerful yellow walls and charcoal gray accents, seen on the dining room chairs.



Bringing the Outdoors In: Greenery seen through the expanded windows is a luxury in condo living, reflecting happy color into the kitchen.

🍷🍷🍷 *Tineke's* Top Kitchen Tips: 🍷🍷🍷

1. Know the Essentials of a Successful Kitchen Design: "B.U.F.F."

Budget: Start by determining what the budget is.

Usage: How will the people living in the home use the kitchen, are there children and animals in the household? Consider and understand the needs of the space before beginning the design.

Function: This includes the "working triangle," what type of cooking will be done and what are the "must haves." Is a hand sprayer essential?

Features: These are the bells and whistles of a project, the choices that make a kitchen look great such as tile and cabinetry. When beginning a kitchen design, these are the last aspects to consider. For many, this is often where they want to start!

2. Where to Spend, Where to Save

Spend: On good cabinetry that will stand up to wear and tear; on the backsplash which is the jewelry and design highlight of many kitchens; and on the stove, which is the workhorse of the room.

Save: On the refrigerator and even the dishwasher. Select a refrigerator based on capacity. Through good design a less

expensive unit can look great simply by paying attention to how the cabinetry is designed around it.

3. Alternatives to Granite

Look to engineered products which are taking center stage moving forward: CeaserStone, Silestone, EuroStone and the newer offering Chroma Quartz are all outstanding.

4. How to Update a Kitchen When a Complete Remodel is Not in the Cards

Begin by updating knobs and pulls. These elements are so easily neglected yet can transform a kitchen, elevating existing cabinetry.

In addition, consider updating the surfaces while working with the existing layout, appliances and cabinetry. If cabinets are in great shape but the wood tone or color is outdated, paint a beautiful hue. Replacing the backsplash is another change that is relatively inexpensive yet can have a huge impact. And finally, replacing countertops can significantly update both the look and function of a kitchen.

5. Kitchen Trends

Expect more painted cabinetry in great colors. And what are Tineke's favorite trends? Extending a striking backsplash up to the ceiling and selecting Lava Stone for countertops.