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38 TOP PICKS

Sinks, Tubs, and Faucets



THIS PHOTO:

Bumping out the back wall 2 feet provided just enough room for cabinetry without altering the roofline. Golden beech cabinets and cool stainless-steel appliances and countertops energize the kitchen.

OPPOSITE:

Creative use of clear, frosted, and colored glass bridges the style divide between the light wood cabinets and metal countertops, resulting in a cohesive look.



Modern-Minded

When it comes to remodeling, dividing and conquering isn't always the best strategy. Sometimes a united front is best for transforming a dreary room into an inviting haven.

That was the case with this lonely kitchen, which was dark, cramped, and cut off from the rest of the house. Separated from the kitchen by a wall, the spacious, light-filled dining room sparked design inspiration. To improve circulation, the two rooms swapped spaces, and the wall dividing them was removed to create one unified room fitting for the open style of the rest of the 1960s home.

To further maximize space, the kitchen borrowed square footage from the living room. And to establish a more

THIS PHOTO: Uniting the kitchen and dining room created an open, light-infused space that conveys a casual, contemporary look.

OPPOSITE: The minimal yet sculptural shape of the Arne Jacobsen chairs and Charles Eames table in the vibrant dining area reflect midcentury-modern style.



inviting flow between the two rooms, an angled divider that stops short of the ceiling replaced an imposing wall so both rooms appear open and spacious. Acoustical panels built into the ceiling and in the surrounding drywall muffle kitchen clatter, ensuring each space retains its privacy. With an expanse of built-in cabinets, the playful green divider also maximizes storage potential—and it even contains a niche with a countertop and an upper cabinet, creating an office just outside the busy kitchen work area.

Once the structural modifications were finalized, a midcentury-modern makeover breathed new life into the kitchen. Golden beech custom cabinets generate warmth, while light green accents—such as the painted divider and patchwork of glass backsplash tiles—bring nature's beauty indoors. The frosted-glass doors lining the upper cabinets soften the hard lines throughout the kitchen and offer filtered views of contents. Commercial-look, aluminum window framing, the honed-granite counter topping the storage-packed







THIS PHOTO: Replacing an imposing wall with this angled divider gives the kitchen an inviting vibe. A steel post carries the weight of the old wall and fits the modern scheme.

RIGHT: To prevent unnecessary clutter, a pullout drawer conveniently located next to the stove houses cooking essentials.

island, and the ebony-stained cabinets built into the divider lend striking contrast. In the adjacent dining area, a curvy, free-form Charles Eames dining table and colorful Arne Jacobsen chairs punctuate the space.

The modern look also translates into low-maintenance material choices, including easy-to-clean, stainless-steel countertops that are perfect for an active family. Durable, charcoal-color porcelain tiles break up the expanse of oak floor, sustaining heavy traffic in the kitchen work triangle better than wood. In the dining room, an area rug made of interlocking, office-style rubber mats makes it easy to clean spills while contributing to the bold yet livable midcentury-modern style. **DK**

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