

FRESHEN UP

Get inspired with kitchen and bathroom renovations, the best new products and expert advice to make the most of these two essential rooms.

By Amanda Friedman, Barri Leiner, Drew Limsky, Elaine Markoutsas, Andrea Mills, Rhonda Reinhart, Jessie Sardina and Phebe Wahl

MIX & MATCH Featuring materials such as wood, metal and aluminum with a variety of finishes, the new Loft kitchen collection from **Snaidero** is aptly named for its urban appeal and hardworking storage options. Designed for those that love to cook, as well as those in downtown spaces, part of the Loft collection is the new Snaidero Container—a room within a room that can be used for a pantry or kitchen closet and can be closed off when not in use, making for endless customization. We also love the new, chunky Nolita handles with their Peltro (antiqued pewter) finish.



MODERN FAMILY

"I wanted a streamlined kitchen that could be closed off and become a galley for entertaining," says homeowner Nicole Drexler. To have just that, she approached renowned kitchen expert Scott Dresner of **Dresner Design**, who designed the open-concept kitchen with a sleek Italian style in mind. They settled on a galley layout with a long island to create a flow that suits the busy family's everyday living, as well as their passion for cooking and entertaining. All of the Gaggenau and Miele appliances are concealed behind Stosa Cucine white-glass cabinetry, which has very few embellishments due to built-in lip pulls and integrated hardware. When closed the cabinets appear more like furniture to blend in with the family room beyond. Drexler loves that she can quickly hide everything but just as easily "have the doors open for the pantry items, spices, pots and pans when real life steps in." —Photo by Jim Tichetter
DESIGN DETAILS Dresner Design, 3400 N. Lakeshore Drive, Ste. 2A, 312.929.6444, dresnerdesign.com



ASK THE EXPERT

What should the focus be when starting a kitchen reno?

"Take a step back to understand how the new design will interact with your needs. A smart layout is the initial step for a timeless design. Adding quality finishes is the ultimate touch to having a look that is current and practical for many years to come."

Michael Miller, Centaur Interiors, 215 W. Huron St., 312.279.2776, centaurinteriors.com

TAKE CHARGE

If your kitchen often acts as command central, you will want to know about the latest gadget from LG Hausys: The **TechTop** surface wirelessly charges any device by way of an inductive transmitter embedded underneath your counter. Once installed, simply set your device on the charging surface and watch your battery juice up. That's right: no wires or exposed conductors anywhere.

