

ELEMENTS

INTOXICATING HIDDEN BARS FOR THE HOME

Cocktails with a cool factor: These entertainment areas are space-savers tucked behind panels, doors and bookcases

IS THERE ANYTHING more suave than pressing a button to open the doors of a secret room off your library? Only when that room is a hidden bar, stacked with shelves of glittering glassware and bottles.

A hidden bar is a whiz-bang addition to a home. Durable materials such as stone countertops are a safe and stylish bet. A tinted mirror for the back wall is a popular option and makes the space look bigger. As for shelving, glass is a typical choice that is easy to clean. Materials will affect costs, which can easily stretch into the five-figure range or higher, designers say. Prices also vary based on custom elements, appliances and extras such as wine refrigerators.

Here are some other considerations:

—Leigh Kamping-Carder



LET IT SLIDE

Doors that glide effortlessly require the right ceiling tracks and space for the panel to recede into the wall. Craig Tevolitz, principal of Boston interior-design firm Platemark Design, installed a dry bar under the staircase in a two-level Boston loft, taking advantage of unused square footage and giving the homeowners a stylish place to store glassware and keep a wine refrigerator. A heavy panel made of beveled, painted wood slides behind a wall, uncovering the bar.

Price: About \$25,000 to \$30,000, with installation, for a comparable bar

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