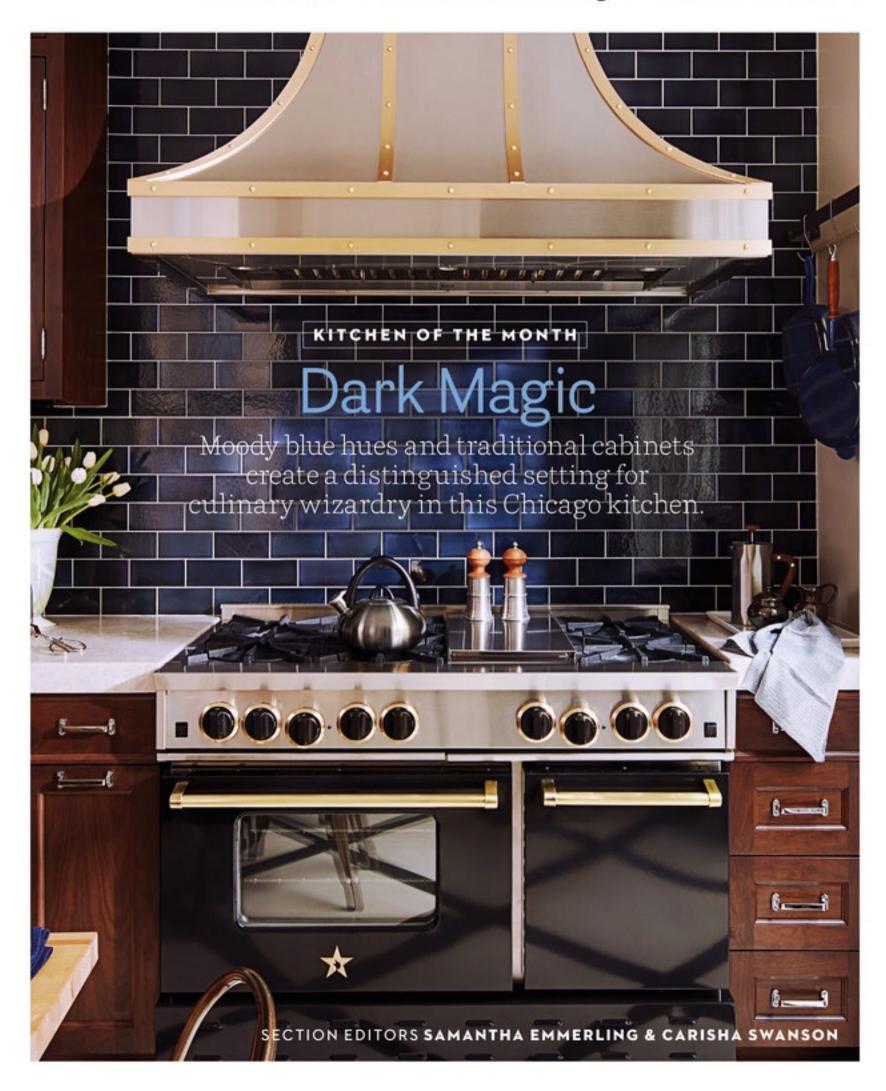
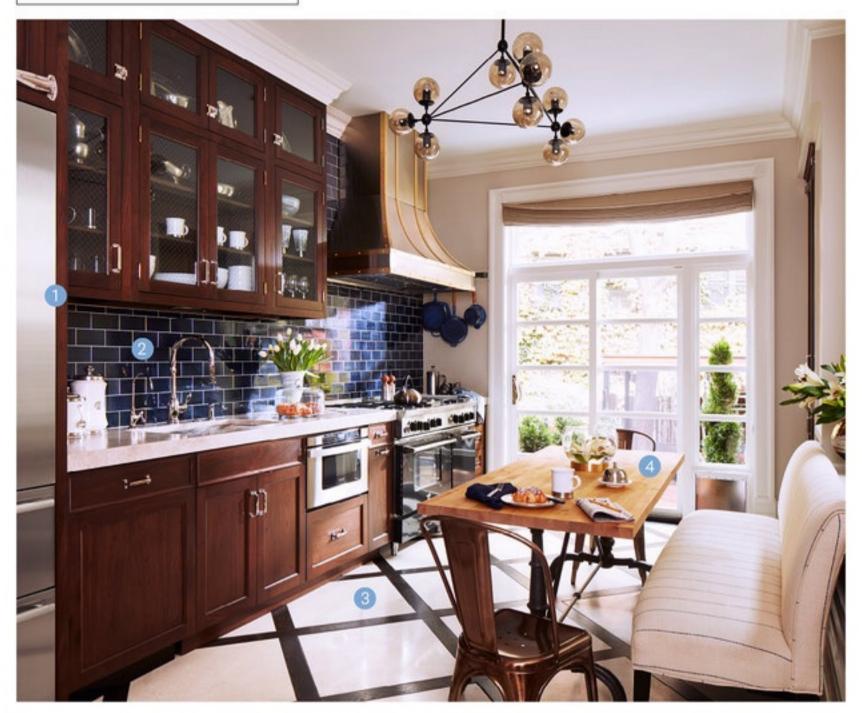
THE ESSENTIALS

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KITCHEN OF THE MONTH



Walnut cabinets and ink-blue tiles add a masculine heft to a relatively small galley kitchen. "We could pull off the dark colors because we balanced them with a lighter countertop, walls, and floor," says designer Rebekah Zaveloff. The black BlueStar RNB Series range was one of her first purchases, and she topped it with a custom brasstrimmed hood. "It has a vintage look, which makes a new kitchen feel as if it were created over time."

—Christine Pittel

1. MIX OF BRANDS

"Appliances, like colors, do not have to match," says Zaveloff. The Liebherr refrigerator packs a lot of storage into a tall, slender form. She likes the easy accessibility of Sharp's microwave drawer. And she recommended the BlueStar range, trimmed in brass, to her client because she has one herself. It's available in more than 750 colors and finishes.

2. STATEMENT TILE

Waterworks' District tile in Ink got her attention because of the color and the glaze—"thick as caramelized sugar," she says. "When you have a standout tile, the countertops have to be quieter." Zaveloff chose natural quartzite with a leather finish and a mitered edge to