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INTERIOR DESIGN

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*8 Genius Outdoor
Kitchen Design Tips*

*8 Christmas Wall
Decoration That Go Far
Beyond Framed Art*

*These 4 Ideas Make
The Case For Two-
Tone Kitchen Cabinets*

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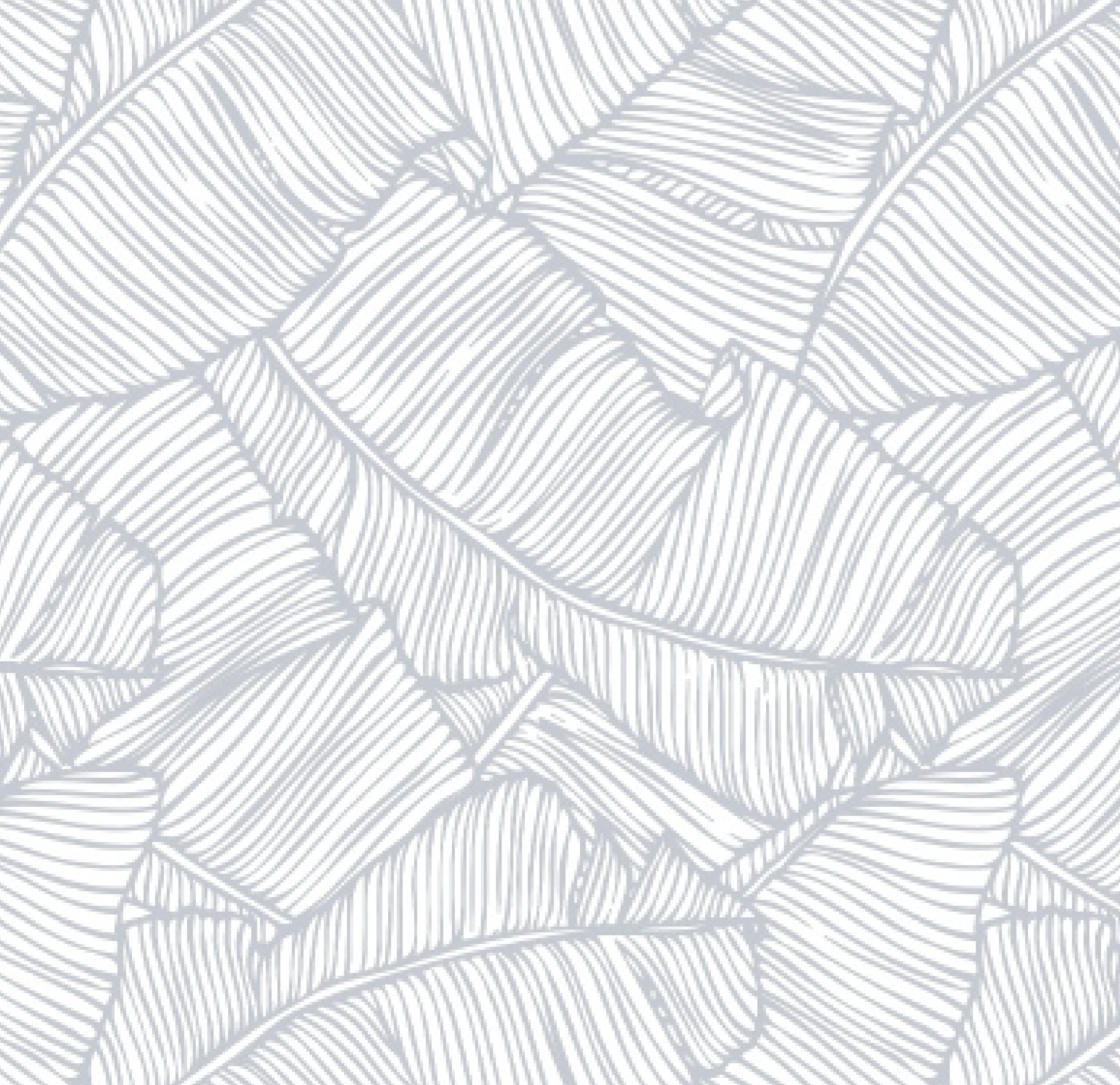


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**WHAT'S
INSIDE?**

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8 GENIUS OUTDOOR KITCHEN DESIGN TIPS

As the temperature continues to drop—and our attention moves inside merely thinking about an outdoor kitchen is surprisingly, if not stylistically sacrilegious. While creating warm and cozy spaces for the here-and-now ranks high on most people’s decorating to-do list, getting a head start on your alfresco area can be an investment for your future self and space.

Simply put, nobody wants to spend the height of summer sifting through tile samples or waiting for that back-ordered patio furniture. Regardless of how early you start the planning process, decorating an outdoor kitchen is by no means easy.

Not only do you want to create a space that caters nicely to both home chefs and guests, but you’ll also need to consider how your culinary quarters will fare during those unfavorable months.

To help, we asked a handful of designers to share their best tips for decorating an outdoor kitchen. From the practical to the aesthetically pleasing, the pointers below are worthy of a chef’s kiss.

BUDGET BEFOREHAND

Deborah Krasner, author of *The New Outdoor Kitchen*, advises budgeting for your outdoor space according to what's most important to you. It may be best to invest in the setting (like a patio or decking) if you're planning to stay in your house for the long haul, and start with modest cooking equipment and appliances that can be upgraded over time. If you think you may move, buy the equipment of your dreams in portable form so you can take it with you.



TAKE AN AUDIT ON APPLIANCES

One of the first decisions you'll need to make while you design your outdoor kitchen is which appliances you'll want to add to your space. Fortunately, unlike a traditional kitchen, there are no wrong answers. While some dwellers might keep it simple with a grill, designer Mel Bean added the works, like a beverage fridge, to the mix.

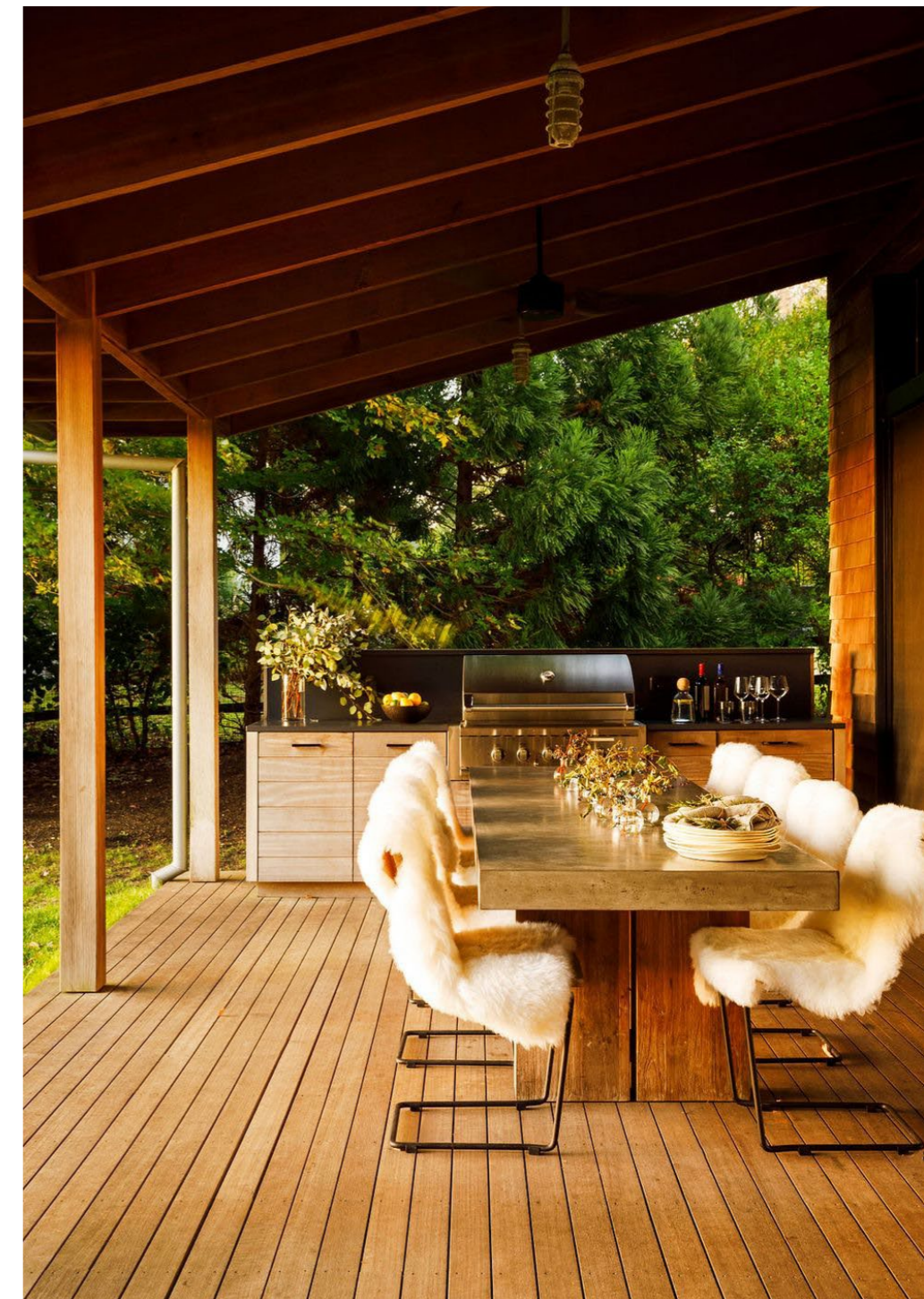


TAKE COVER

Outdoor kitchens might elicit visions of easy, breezy, and open spaces. However, if you want to make the most of yours, it's a good idea to add walls and a ceiling to your setup. Brandon Architects teamed up with Brooke Wagner to create the ultimate indoor-outdoor space, complete with large serving windows.

ALL-SEASON STYLING

Though outdoor kitchens are often associated with the summer, those who live in warmer climates might utilize this space year-round. But if you'd like to differentiate your space for each season, add some textural touches as Allison Babcock did here.





STRATEGICALLY PLACE YOUR KITCHEN

A kitchen is one of the most trafficked areas of any property, so it makes sense to position it next to your backyard's "wow" factor. For ultimate convenience, Ten Plus Three placed this simple setup right next to their client's pool. Dinner entertainment has never been so fun!

SCOPE OUT A SUBTLE SPOT

If square footage comes at premium, consider adding a kitchen to your property's underutilized areas. For example, Studio Schicketanz created a gorgeous outdoor kitchen in this side yard. Areas that need a lot of attention frequently turn out to be the best location for privacy and give you an opportunity to add some atmosphere to an underused space.





STEP UP YOUR STORAGE

When designer Linda Hayslett was tasked with creating an outdoor kitchen, she wanted to make it as functional as possible. So she added upper cabinetry. “Every interior kitchen has cabinetry that houses these items, but most people don’t think of that for an outdoor kitchen,” she shares. “It can be cumbersome constantly going in and out when cooking on the grill, so having the same amenities outdoors can really make using an outdoor space feel more comfortable.”

CREATE A FUNCTIONAL FLOW

Make meal prepping alfresco as simple as possible with a long countertop, just as L’Atelier Paris did here. With a sink and stovetop flanking each side, it’s possible to go from washing produce to grilling in a snap.



8 CHRISTMAS WALL DECORATIONS THAT GO FAR BEYOND FRAMED ART

If there's one hard-and-fast rule in the design world, it's this: A blank wall is a missed opportunity. It could be that final missing touch of personality in a room, a chance to tell your story and reveal hints about who you are and what you value. And when it comes to the holidays, it could be that final piece of eye candy that takes your space to the next level this season.



We'll let you in on a secret: Sometimes a fabulous wall moment requires little more than a few smart additions to your existing furnishings. Whether you're all about a classic garland flourish or like to rework tradition with something loud and proud—maximalists, we're going pattern on pattern over here—these 24 wall displays from our favorite designer's playbooks will transform your drab panels into any self-respecting holiday fanatic's pride and joy.

BRONZE ACCENTS

Up your living room's cozy quotient with mood lighting. In a 1910 Craftsman house, Hayley Lunde deployed a circular June Home Supply candle sconce on each side of the window. "I loved the idea of adding these sconces after I saw some on TV in the era that matched our home," Lunde says. "We had gotten them right before the holidays last year, and they brought such warmth and coziness to the space. Being functional and chic is always a win."



HO-HO-HEXAGONS

These three hexagonal mirrors might be here year-round, but they've never looked this good. Pretty in the Pines' Shelby Vanhoy says she usually opts for framed art when creating a gallery wall but couldn't resist these mirrors to fill out the wall above her sofa. "The asymmetrical layout was a clean, simple, yet unique setup," Vanhoy says. "For a cozy seasonal upgrade, I tied greenery to the frame of each."



A WARM WELCOME

To give a practical entryway a statement edge, take a cue from Hayley Lunde, who flanked the nook of her Red Wing, Minnesota, house with festive greenery and complementary pillows. “My goal with our home has always been to create spaces that feel like they have always been there,” Lunde says. “This is probably my favorite area in our house because it is sooo fun to decorate for all the different holidays and seasons.” Not to mention it’s fabulously functional.

EVERGREEN EXUBERANCE

Maybe you’re all about minimalism the rest of the year but not afraid to go “ham” on decor during the holiday season. This festive Ukrainian wall dressing is a maximalist’s heaven: green on green on green, with a flourish of gold ornaments and twinkling lights. It’s just the cure for those winter blues.



STARSTRUCK STYLE

Who can resist a dedicated design theme? When it comes to finding inspiration, Bethany Adams's latest decor project is proof that one needn't look far. Here, Adams carried the pendant's starlike qualities throughout the room, with lighted stars hung on the wall via seemingly invisible string. "When decorating for the holidays, I like to play off the permanent elements of the room—in this case the fabulous starburst light fixture, burgundy silk draperies, and brass accents," Adams says. "Repeating colors, textures, and motifs keeps the festive decor from feeling too over the top."



ALL DECKED OUT

Maybe you are committed to taking up more white space. So embrace your love of conifers with a custom wall piece that looks way more time-intensive than it is. "Creating custom holiday decor doesn't need to be complicated or expensive," says the Crafted Sparrow's Rebecca Lopez. "A simple branch paired with seasonal wreaths and ribbon or faux leather makes for a beautiful statement piece in minutes."



FESTIVE FURNISHINGS

Designer John McClain is here to remind us that inspiration can be drawn from the unlikeliest of places—even somewhere a little more “off the wall,” so to speak. “Use what you have,” he says. This bookcase was accented with ribbon and wreaths, strategically placed in the center of each opening for a look that makes an otherwise ordinary piece of furniture really come to life. “Replace a few of your everyday accessories with holiday ones, and you have a holiday bookshelf,” McClain adds.

ELEGANT RESTRAINT

Maybe your console wants its place in the spotlight. A tasteful, delicate ornamentation like this carefully strung singular star offers a pared-back moment of understated adornment. Bonus tip: This works really well when you have a particularly stunning wall color that is a moment in its own right.





So you've solemnly sworn to update your kitchen cabinets this year. There's just one problem: You can't commit to a color scheme. Sure, there are trendy colorways like green and the enigmatic black look, or you could always stick to a classic, like all-white or gray.

THESE 4 IDEAS MAKE THE CASE FOR TWO-TONE KITCHEN CABINETS

We're here to let you know that it is possible to have the best of both chromatic worlds with multicolored cupboards. In fact, two-tone kitchen cabinets can help you accomplish a myriad of design goals through complementary and contrasting colors or materials. Looking to accentuate those traditional Shaker cabinets?

Consider accenting them in bright white, à la designer Jean-Louis Deniot. Want all eyes on your kitchen island? Paint your cabinets to suit, as designer Ken Fulk did in a stunning Sonoma scullery. No matter what you choose, these 32 lively kitchens prove that, when it comes to cabinets, two colors are often better than one.

GREEN AND STAINLESS STEEL CABINETS

Leave it to Emiliano Salci of Dimorestudio to transform his small kitchen into a work of art. Here, the green cabinet units provide a delightful contrast to the shiny stainless steel ones. The color-block magic continues on the walls with the black and gold paint.



OUTLINED CABINETS

Jacques Grange gave one of his dear friends a bright kitchen to match her cheery personality. Here, an otherwise all-white kitchen is given a quirky twist with cabinets outlined in a bold azure.



WARM TIMBER AND BRIGHT WHITE CABINETS

Take a page from designer Ellie Cullman's book by matching your cabinets to your island but keeping your cupboards white and staining the island to a deep, toasted finish. The hexagonal backsplash tiles, marble countertops, and splashes of yellow add even more contrast.

WEATHERED GREEN AND WHITE

Everything is timeworn in Elena Reygadas's Mexico City apartment—including the well-used green kitchen island, which had a prior life as a carpenter's bench. The mottled tones make the perfect contrast to the crisp off-white cabinets behind.



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