

THE ESSENTIALS

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KITCHEN OF THE MONTH

3 FOR MORE CEMENT TILE

The first thing designer SuzAnn Kletzien did to update this kitchen was move the sink across the room, over to the bright bay window, so it no longer faced a blank wall. She swapped in an island for the existing peninsula as well, but the appliances stayed put. "That way we could afford to splurge on a wine refrigerator," says Kletzien, who unified the space with gray and white—plus hits of brass.

STYLES, SEE PAGE 76.

TASK LIGHTING

Willamette pendants illuminate the island, while above the bay window (see previous page), Isaac sconces focus light on the sink. Both Schoolhouse Electric fixtures are trimmed in warm brass. Recessed lights, in combination with lights inside and under the cabinets, add to the glow.

COUNTERS AS COUNTERPOINT

Absolute Black granite with a leathered finish provides a strong contrast to the pale wood on the island. Gray cabinets, painted in Benjamin Moore's Cinder, are topped with a Silestone counter in subtly veined Pulsar. "The wife is a great cook, and she wanted every surface to be durable," says Kletzien.

TWO-IN-ONE FLOOR

Dark wood planks run from the front door of the house into the kitchen. But then, in a bold, irregular diagonal (see previous page), the floor divides. The half near the stove, sink, and back door is made of sturdy cement tiles that can easily handle spills and mud. Tres Grises hexagonal tiles from Mosaicos.

MIX OF METALS

4

Card File pulls and Mid-Century knobs made of brass, both from Schoolhouse Electric, bring in warmth and are a welcome surprise next to stainless steel appliances. The switch plates on the outlets are also done in brushed brass. As Kletzien says, "They have to be there, so why not make them more interesting to look at?"

5 **OPEN SHELVES**

Visible from the front door, they look light and airy and offer a contrast to the closed cabinets, which are fronted with opaque glass panes. The rustic wooden shelves are cantilevered from a backsplash made of four-inch-square White Gloss tiles from Mosaicos, set in a staggered pattern and accentuated by gunmetal-gray grout.



FEELING BRASSY

The fearless mix of metals in this month's kitchen inspired us to find even more ways to add character, warmth, and shine to the most popular room in the house.

1. BRASS-TIPPED SERVING SET With rosewood handles, \$38. anthropologie.com

2. COPPER CLEANING CLOTH Gentle enough to clean glassware, these can also remove rust and reveal shine in metal items from pots and pans to cars. Made from 100 percent recyclable copper. By Bürstenhaus Redecker. \$20 for six. rodales.com

3. WYNDHAM SWIVEL **COUNTER STOOL**

The iron base has a vintage brass finish; the wood seat is rubbed with wax. \$645. arteriorshome.com

4. KATIE FITTER PENDANT -WITH GLASS GLOBE

Hand-rubbed antique brass. By Thomas O'Brien for Visual Comfort. \$315 for Large. circalighting.com

5. INFUSED COPPER 36-INCH RANGE

One of the options in the Precious Metals Collection, which includes five additional finishes. \$7,619. bluestarcooking.com

6. MID-CENTURY BRACKETS

In an antique brass starburst pattern; comes with a pecan-finished wood shelf. From \$99 for two brackets and a shelf, westelm.com

7. MID-CENTURY KNOB AND CARD FILE PULL

Solid brass; handcrafted in the U.S. Knob, from \$13 each. Pull, from \$11 each. schoolhouseelectric.com

8. M'PASSION COPPER EGG-WHITE-BEATING BOWL

With bronze handles and a round bottom. \$105. mauvielusa.com

9. OPULENCE SINGLE-HANDLE KITCHEN FAUCET

In Stainless Steel. \$599. danze.com

10. 48-INCH FIVE-ZONE REFRIGERATOR

A wine cooler with a see-through front holds 34 bottles and opens separately from the freezer unit below. Refrigerator SBS 246. \$9,700. liebherr-appliances.com