

# A QUINTET

## OF QUOTABLE KITCHENS

There's no place in the home quite like the kitchen. From it springs a source of daily sustenance. But in most homes, the kitchen means so much more. It's often a favorite meeting place—even if the gathered crowd must hover around an island or sit on stiff-backed bar stools as opposed to sinking into a living room sectional. And in this unprecedented period when the comfort and security of one's home means more than ever, it's no wonder that creating the idyllic kitchen has become such a popular undertaking. Here are five kitchens sure to inspire.







# CLEAN AND CONTEMPORARY RE-DO

“KITCHEN OF A LIFETIME.”

By Elizabeth Heubeck | Photography by Gwin Hunt

That’s how Ryan Deshaies, Annapolis-area electrical contractor, describes his vision for a complete overhaul for the kitchen in his Annapolis condominium, originally built in 1981. Working daily in his clients’ kitchens, Deshaies says the urge to create a dream kitchen for his wife and himself grew. The couple’s intentions were clear. But, initially at least, their vision wasn’t.

For clarity, they leaned on the input of a dozen members of the Annapolis Design District. Initially struggling to choose a cabinet finish and stone selections, the couple met with Lisa Tullai of Annapolis Interiors. Within minutes, they had made their selections with confidence: white with blue streaks and earth tones and Monticello marble, respectively.

Another challenge—how to make a pre-existing support beam seam tie into the new kitchen design—was resolved after brainstorming with Mark White of Kitchen Encounters. They created a “dividing island” with a knee wall on the backside: a solution that delineated the living room from the kitchen, while still allowing for an open floor plan.

With a desire to have “clean and contemporary” dominate their newly designed kitchen, the couple utilized a lot of hidden storage in the re-do, including a microwave and drawers for organizing (and hiding) dish storage. The dramatic and luxurious full-splash marble backsplash, which weighs between 350 and 400 pounds and required five men to install, contains zero receptacles. Instead, they’re all hidden and integrated into the floating shelves, as is the cabinet lighting.

“What sets this kitchen apart is the attention to detail in every aspect of the design,” said Deshaies. “This project was not rushed and we used our resources to the fullest extent to give us the kitchen of a lifetime.”

**KITCHEN DESIGN:** Kitchen Encounters, [kitchenencounters.biz](http://kitchenencounters.biz), Annapolis, Maryland | **INTERIOR DESIGN:** Lisa Tullai, Annapolis Interiors, [annapolisinteriors.com](http://annapolisinteriors.com), Annapolis, Maryland | **ARCHITECT:** Brian Fishback, Fishback Architecture, [fishbackarchitecture.com](http://fishbackarchitecture.com), Annapolis, Maryland | **BUILDER:** Krebs Custom Builders, Annapolis, Maryland | **TILE:** In Home Stone, [inhomestone.com](http://inhomestone.com), Annapolis, Maryland | **FLOORING:** Wood Floor Creations, Greensboro, Maryland

