



SEASON *for* ENTERTAINING

IN A CHARMING CHICAGO KITCHEN DESIGNED BY REBEKAH ZAVELOFF, A FESTIVE AMBIENCE SETS THE SCENE.

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Tell us about your approach to pattern. The patterned concrete floor tiles make the space here! In so many kitchens we incorporate wood floors, as people are nervous to commit to pattern, but the wood on wood can start to blend; it can be challenging to create contrast. Here, the tile adds a dose of drama but isn't overwhelming. I did several versions of the design until we came up with something everyone loved with just the right balance of black and white.

How is the dining room used? This space certainly changed once we opened it up to the kitchen. Before, the two rooms were separated by a large volume that housed a pantry and powder room; it felt choppy. Now, everything flows together nicely. So I decided to do away with dedicated dining, living and hall areas and instead put seating everywhere. I believe if you make spaces welcoming, people will use them!

Extra seating areas are always smart, and this cozy space in front of the fireplace houses Jayson Home's Melrose Chair in spice velvet with a Siren Song pillow. Custom Villa Lagoon Tile, selected by designer Rebekah Zaveloff, decorates the floor.

Today, the kitchen is the main hub of the house, so set the scene with an oversize vase brimming with greenery. For this space, Devin Kirk, vice president of merchandising for Jayson Home, chose olive tree branches, which can last for weeks.

Previous page: A gorgeous floral arrangement is a must when entertaining in your dining room. "It anchors the space, sets the tone and can be a great conversation starter," says Kirk, who styled the display with anemones, sedum, dahlias and magnolia branches in a generous white vase.





A good tray is the unsung hero of the bar. It instantly corrals bottles and glassware making the space look more put together. Fresh herbs in small vessels are a nice alternative to florals and allow guests to be creative while mixing their own cocktails. For more styling tips, turn to the recently launched JH Stylist by Jayson Home, which provides suggestions to perfectly curate your space. jaysonhome.com/stylist



COOL DOWN

Stock up for the holidays with Signature Kitchen Suite's Integrated Column Wine Refrigerator, which includes new technology that significantly reduces vibration and limits light exposure preserving the bottles longer. This cave-like environment keeps wine cool but also features separate temperature zones to provide the ideal conditions for any type of varietal. For the real connoisseurs, the newly launched True Sommelier app helps to manage wine collections, learns drinking preferences and suggests recommendations for those not as savvy. The storage unit is available in 24- and 18-inch sizes. signaturekitchensuite.com



Think outside the box when it comes to the mantel. Fig branches provide an interesting pop of green while a marbled teapot adds unexpected charm and a pretty silhouette. Few things are more important than good lighting and a scattering of candlesticks ensures the festivities will continue by candlelight, says Kirk.



For a row house renovation in Chicago's historic Hyde Park, Rebekah Zaveloff's clients requested one element straightaway: a woodburning fireplace in the kitchen. The family has a summer home in Vermont with an outdoor pizza oven and wanted to bring a similar vibe to this residence. Thankfully, Zaveloff, the designer and cofounder of KitchenLab Interiors, was completely on board. "It's all about creating spaces that feel a certain way, evoke emotion or a sense of nostalgia," Zaveloff explains. In this case, the homeowners desired a kitchen that would recall vacation all year long. kitchenlabinteriors.com

The fireplace is such a defining feature. How did you decide on its placement within the kitchen?

I know from working in old homes that adding fireplaces can be a very challenging undertaking. There is a lot to consider, including chimney size, structural issues, converting gas lines, ventilation and so on. Originally, we had designed the fireplace to go on the back wall between the windows but when we demolished the space, we found an old chimney in the corner and the location really ended up being a happy accident.