

# Cooking up class

Get creative in the kitchen with these expert design ideas, eye-catching trends and culinary innovations

COMPILED BY ELEANOR JOSLIN



**OLIVER GOETTLING**  
managing director, Goettling Interiors

## Stylish space-saving solutions

Small kitchens in studios and apartments will benefit from integrated seating, maximised storage solutions and smart design features, without compromising on adequate circulation space. Schüller's C Collection Biella kitchen, seen left, scores major storage goals with tall cabinets and under-seat cabinets, while open shelves with integrated under-shelf mood lighting increases the aesthetic appeal. Smart design that amplifies functionality includes a pullout socket integrated within the countertop and the "Lift" worktop section, which rises to reveal a concealed lower level surface with space for an appliance like a food processor, increasing the available surface area. The vibrant green cabinet colour incorporates bold colour blocking and brings the outdoors in – key trends in contemporary interior design, not just for kitchens. With this in mind, the design also underpins the trend of "natural authenticity", and achieves a visually balanced yet stimulating space with the designers pairing this vibrant hue with a neutral backsplash and countertop.

Schüller's C Collection Biella kitchen features a low storage unit, left, which doubles up as seating, while the "Lift" section of worktop in the right-hand corner elevates to reveal additional surface space.



The Oxide Meteor Kitchen from Hacker is on-trend with a distressed, weathered metal finish on the units.



**CASSIDY DAVIS**  
Senior designer at Hacker Kitchens

### Rough textures

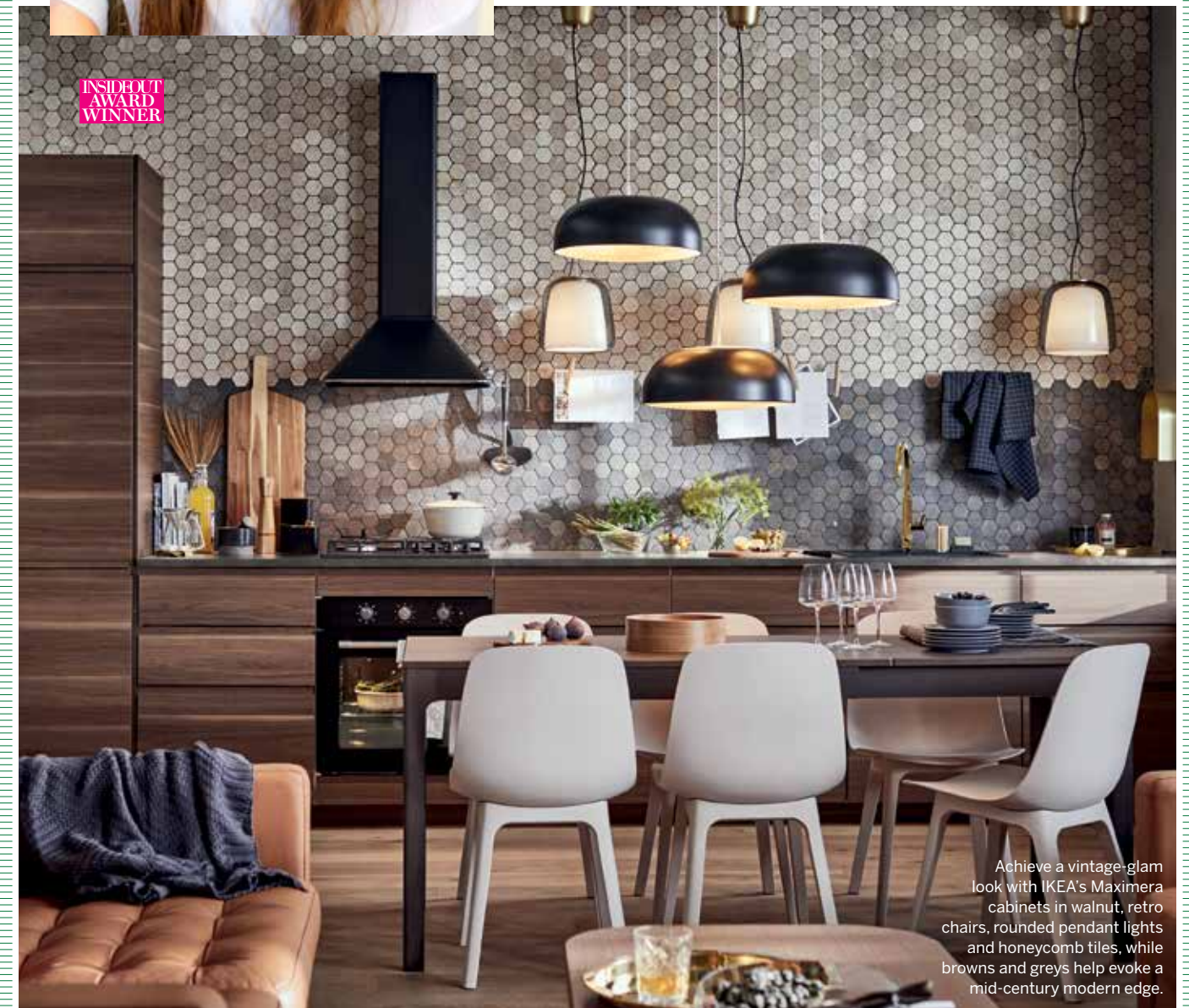
We have seen a move towards rough, textured cabinets, with a new generation discovering the aesthetic appeal of concrete – with its fine pores and shades of grey it's perfectly suited to an industrial-style urban interior. Taking inspiration from this modern trend, the Oxide Meteor kitchen, above, carries the aesthetic of rough textures, particularly weathered metal, yet in a smooth, stylish and liveable way. Dark kitchens like this can handle bold colour, demonstrated by the strong accent wall painted plum and dark furniture. In addition, in the UAE we tend to live in properties with lots of light, which prevents a dark kitchen from looking gloomy and dull. Atmospheric downlighting is the perfect finishing touch.



### Modern vintage

The current vintage trend brings '80s glamour and luxury to the kitchen and home. Taking inspiration from the movie stars and sets of that era, it incorporates brass, chrome and gold touches, as well as mirrors and polished textures. These are paired alongside wood elements, with contrasting colours such as burgundy, yellow, green and purple that really bring the effect to life. This look is ideal for bringing a touch of sophistication and fun to kitchen spaces. A simple way to incorporate this trend into a kitchen is to select key pieces that have a vintage look, such as a set of chairs, retro appliances, or a marble or terrazzo countertop, and apply them into your current design. This helps ensure each classic piece stands out, while subtly infusing vintage style into your home.

**LUIZA JODZIEWICZ**  
Regional interior design lead at IKEA



Achieve a vintage-glam look with IKEA's Maximera cabinets in walnut, retro chairs, rounded pendant lights and honeycomb tiles, while browns and greys help evoke a mid-century modern edge.

## Bespoke beauties

It is important to put the client at the centre of the design process, so the final product is the result of a conversation between the design team, the client and the interior designers. The clients' requirements, ambitions and preferences on style and colour, to achieve the kitchen of their dreams, should always be the driver when creating handcrafted masterpieces. In the case of our Pigeon Blue Kitchen, seen below, the client wanted a poolside barbecue area that was out-of-the-ordinary, a spectacular facility for their family and guests, able to cater for a large number of people for events in the garden – a popular pastime for residents in the UAE. One-of-a-kind kitchens like this should be a statement of classic and everlasting design. While there is an unlimited choice of colours, mixing bright blue with chrome finishes and teak wood, plus informal bar stools, creates a contemporary kitchen that will remain the highlight of the garden for many years to come.

### SAVERIO LAGANÀ

General manager at Officine Gullo Middle East



Officine Gullo's Pigeon Blue Kitchen was handmade in Florence using noble metals with chromed brass finishes. It features a barbecue with three lava stone grills, a large electric pizza oven and convivial bar stools for a unique, handcrafted al fresco experience that cannot be imitated.

While the 1980s video game Tetris inspired the block-like units of Scavolini's Tetrix kitchen, achieve fluidity in the space by mixing colour with neutral tones.



### FABIANA SCAVOLINI

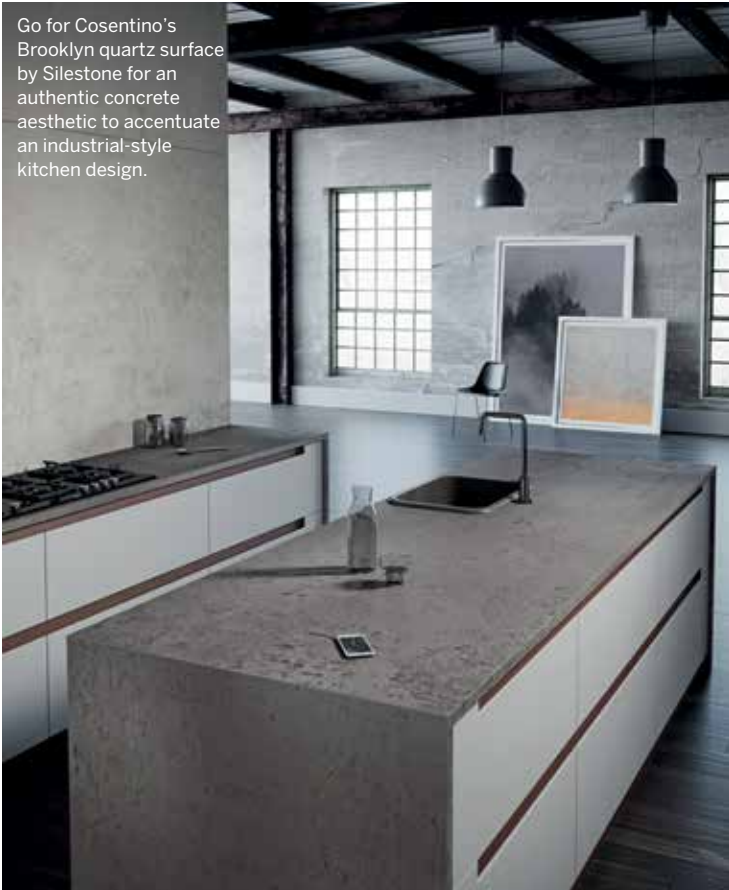
CEO at Scavolini

## Colour blocking

A current trend is for the kitchen and the living environment to be close together, often designed within a single space that is able to perform multiple functions. In the Tetrix kitchen, seen above, the low elements, typical of a living room, meet this new need. The name of the kitchen comes from a famous videogame popular in the '80s, Tetris, which has inspired the way the colours of Tetris are combined together to give rise to unusual and personalised combinations. Here, teal and red work well together, however neutral colours – white, beige, grey, light brown – remain popular. Combine strong, bold shades with lighter tones to create motion in the furniture.



Go for Cosentino's Brooklyn quartz surface by Silestone for an authentic concrete aesthetic to accentuate an industrial-style kitchen design.



**MIRIAM LLANO**  
Marketing manager at Cosentino Middle East

### Industrial design

On trend for kitchens this year is the industrial look achieved through design elements like

exposed brickwork and steel beams, industrial-style pendant lighting, chrome fittings and raw construction material for wall cladding, backsplashes and kitchen countertops. Masterfully replicating the look and feel of grey cement, Brooklyn, from the Silestone Loft Series (seen left), is a choice material for countertops in a modern, industrial-style kitchen. In addition to its tactile, pock-marked look, which complements the pared-back interiors, the surface is engineered quartz by Cosentino with low liquid absorption and high resistance to stains, impact and scratching. Textured parquet flooring and white cabinets add a welcome break to the otherwise stark look of this kitchen.

**TEJAS A SHAH**  
Marketing manager at Teka Middle East and UAE



### Intelligent cooking

In our fast-paced lives, more and more the kitchen is becoming the hub where many things that matter to us happen: laughter, conversations, important decisions, dreams and plans, family bonding, and so forth. With that in mind, Teka strives to develop appliances that aim to be at the heart of the kitchen and the sleek iKnob IT 6450 induction hob, seen right, was developed to give users absolute control and precision. Automatic pan recognition and optimisation provides heat precisely where needed, a security lock offers extra safety and prevents accidental use, and functions for quick-boil and warming offer precision control for the ultimate in intuitive cooking.



The design of Teka's ultra-slim and discreet iKnob features intuitive functions like iQuick Boil, Keep Warm and Power Plus for faster and precise control.

INSIDEOUT AWARD WINNER

### Urban farmhouse

While kitchen design can favour sleek lines and smooth finishes for a clean, open cooking space, rustic finishes and raw materials have been trending in home fashion for some time and can be applied to the kitchen creating a natural, organic and comfortable aesthetic. While exposed brickwork, untreated woodwork and Shaker-style cabinetry can evoke a farmhouse feel, urbanise the look for city living with concrete-style ceramic floor tiles, industrial-style pendant lights, and chrome or copper handles, and paint units in contemporary tones such as petrol blue or charcoal. Recreate the look of exposed brickwork with porcelain or ceramic tiles in a brick design fixed to your interior walls and paint open shelves and doorjamb with a wood-effect paint.



**MAIREAD WALSH**  
InsideOut editor



For a country look that's fitting for urban homes, add cage pendant lights and concrete-style floors to wood counters and exposed brickwork.

Image: living4media

Regardless of whether you **own** or are **renting** your home, you can enjoy a **natural, durable and sustainable wood floor** by Kährs of Sweden. Installed **glueless and floating** on top of any **existing flooring**.

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