We asked five kitchen design experts to choose their best work. Here, their confessions.

# traditional with a funky edge

Designer: Debra Funt Debra Funt Interior Design Scarsdale (§) (914) 472-4811



"This is one of my favorite kitchen projects. It's visually beautiful, cozy, welcoming, and it works as efficiently for large-scale entertaining as it does for family dinners. The design style is traditional, but I kept it from being too serious and fussy by infusing it with a funky edge. No matter where you are standing in the room, there are eye-catching details that make this space unique. The repeating geometry of the ceramic tiles on the wall is the backdrop for all the other layers of textures in the room and using lime-green punched up the neutral palette. I'm also crazy about the simplicity and elegance of the Baccarat pendants. They give off the most glorious shimmery light."

#### sleek and minimalist

Designer: Phyllis Harbinger
Design Concepts/Interiors, LLC
8 Devonshire Ct, Cortlandt Manor (§ (914) 734-1383



"This kitchen is in a loft space at Trump Tower. The light anigre cabinets accented by black and stainless accents give it a contemporary, minimalist feel. The stools by Evanson are great for entertaining—they are comfortable and you can swivel around to the rest of the loft. And it's not just a beautiful kitchen, but also quite functional. Galley kitchens are efficient work spaces, and the upper cabinet doors open up, rather than outward, so you don't bump your head."

# a contemporary chef's dream

Designer: Michelle Gerson Michelle Gerson Interiors New York NY



"This Scarsdale kitchen epitomizes the concept of what a kitchen really should be—it has everything a chef would need to prepare a five-star dinner, but it also has tons of comfortable seating and conversation areas for family and friends to gather. It really is the heart of this home."

### design within reach

Designer: Paula Greer, CKD, Senior Designer Bilotta Kitchens

Mamaroneck, Mount Kisco, Briarcliff, and NYC (866) BILOTTA



"The client is a professional chef. The kitchen needed to be highly functional as well as beautiful. It was fun figuring out creative ways to store all the spices, oils, and cookware so that they are always on hand. To maximize the storage space, we took advantage of the room's sloped ceiling. Oversized wall cabinets with alternating design heights not only added extra storage space but lots of interest. The custom-designed pot rack was also a must because it was necessary to have everything the client needed within arms' reach."

## southwestern spice with 50s style

Designer: Jason Landau
Amazing Spaces, LLC
30 Fountain Rd, Briarcliff Manor (914) 239-3725



"This project presented a number of different design challenges: the existing small '50s style kitchen was outdated, there was a cramped laundry room, a narrow front door entry hall with no kitchen access, a closed-off sunroom/dining area, and a fair amount of floor space adjacent to the family room that was under-utilized. Plus, the client wanted to keep a sense of style from her old '50s kitchen and combine it with the Southwestern feel of her existing family room. We opened the front hallway into the kitchen, which completely changed the flow of the house, allowing direct access from the stianway into the kitchen. The wall between the kitchen and family-room areas was taken down as well. Another reason I liked this kitchen is because the client really cared about all of the details and decisions, which, in the end, makes a project very personal and original. It was fun.