



BACK TO **NATURE**

Celebrate the beauty of nature with lighting pieces that draw reference to weather elements as well as flora and fauna

ost urbanites living in densely populated cities yearn to reconnect with the great outdoors, while doing all that we can to bring nature's artistry into our homes. One simple way is to include statement lamps inspired by botany and other elements from the natural world. Some of the most captivating shapes, forms and textures are found in nature, and artists have long sought to capture its beauty through their work. Lighting designers too, have taken cues from nature to create innovative lamps inspired by landscapes and the animal kingdom. Here, we take a look at some of the most inspiring designs.



DELICATE FOLIAGE

Designed in 1957 by Marc Lalique, the Champs-Élysées chandeliers (pictured above and on the left) were inspired by the finely veined leaves of the luscious Plane trees that flank the titular boulevard in Paris. These chandeliers come with clear crystal pieces that look like snow-covered leaves. Handcrafted in France with a chrome-plated body, each leafshaped crystal is unique, and creates ever-shifting reflections when lit.



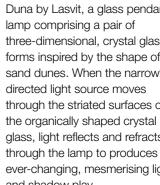
PERFECT BALANCE

The sight of birds perched on tree branches inspired British architect Umut Yamac's delightful Perch collection, which he designed for Moooi. The collection of six lamps includes a floor, wall, and table lamp as well as a chandelier and suspension light. Made of folded paper and brass, the LED-lit origami-style birds balance gracefully on their metal perch, which swings gently when tapped to give the lamp a sense of dynamism.



SAND FORMATIONS

From Zaha Hadid Design comes Duna by Lasvit, a glass pendant three-dimensional, crystal glass forms inspired by the shape of sand dunes. When the narrowly through the striated surfaces of glass, light reflects and refracts ever-changing, mesmerising light and shadow play.





ETHEREAL ADDITION

Designed by Swedish designer Johanna Forsberg for Northern, Heat is a pendant lamp that looks like a warm, glowing cloud. Composed of a single lamp encased in a brass mesh with undulating textures, this dynamic lamp brings plenty of artistic charm into your home, and works particularly well in bedrooms, anterooms, or above the dining table.



FACETS OF LIFE

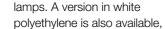
The Foglia-Libellula lamp, designed by Sugo and handcrafted in Italy, captures the form and patterns of a dragonfly's wing. A process called photocatalysis, which employs the properties of nanoparticles and titanium dioxide, is used to give the lamp a self-cleaning effect. Foglia means leaf in Italian, and like leaves photosynthesising, this sculptural floor lamp will automatically purify its surrounding environment when placed near natural light.





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COSY EMBRACE

The Cocoon suspension lamp designed by Michael Anastassiades for Flos has an internal frame of two interlocking white powder-painted steel rings sprayed with a finish called "Cocoon"—a resin material that was invented to protect packaging for the US Army. Inspired by silkworm cocoons, Anastassiades used this unusual resin to create a transparent, membrane-like shade around the frame so the lamp exterior is visually and texturally similar to a



FRUITFUL BOUNTY

NATURAL FOUNDATION

Italian architects Marta Laudani

and Marco Romanelli designed

stones in oblong shapes. Made

available in three different sizes,

making these lamps a perfect fit

for Japanese-style rock gardens.

these lighting pieces can be

the Stone of Glass lamps for

Oluce to resemble glowing

Wrapped in a shape reminiscent of the Cape gooseberry, Liceo by Santa & Cole weaves the organic form and texture of this exotic fruit into a modern pendant. First designed for the restored Barcelona grand opera theatre Liceo in 1999, the lamp is the work of Spanish designers Lluís Dilmé Romagós, Xavier Fabré, Eulàlia Serra and Ignasi de Solà-Morales. It has a handcreased mesh shade attached to a steel shaft and a large light source at the bottom that emanates indirect light upwards.







RUSTIC ROOTS

Roll & Hill founder Jason Miller breaks away from the streamlined aesthetics of modernism and brings influences from nature to the brand's Superordinate Antler chandeliers. Designed like a cluster or wreath made of antler-like branches, this gorgeous piece, though contemporary, exudes a rustic spirit that evokes visions of cosy cabins in the woods.



GENTLE RAIN

Appearing like raindrops suspended in mid-air, the Rain collection from Studio Italia Design is a simple yet sophisticated range of pendant lights. It appears even more spellbinding when grouped in a cluster to create the effect of a spring shower. With its minimal, organic shape, and shades available in finishes such as brushed chrome, copper bronze, rose gold and matt black or white, Rain is a versatile lamp that works well with many different interior themes.





FLOS, MOOOI, ROLL & HILL

Space Furniture flos.com moooi.com rollandhill.com spacefurniture.com

LALIQUE

lalique.com

LASVIT, SANTA & COLE

W. Atelier lasvit.com santacole.com watelier.com

NORTHERN

Danish Design Co danishdesignco.com.sg northern.no

OLUCE

P5 oluce.com

p5.com.sg

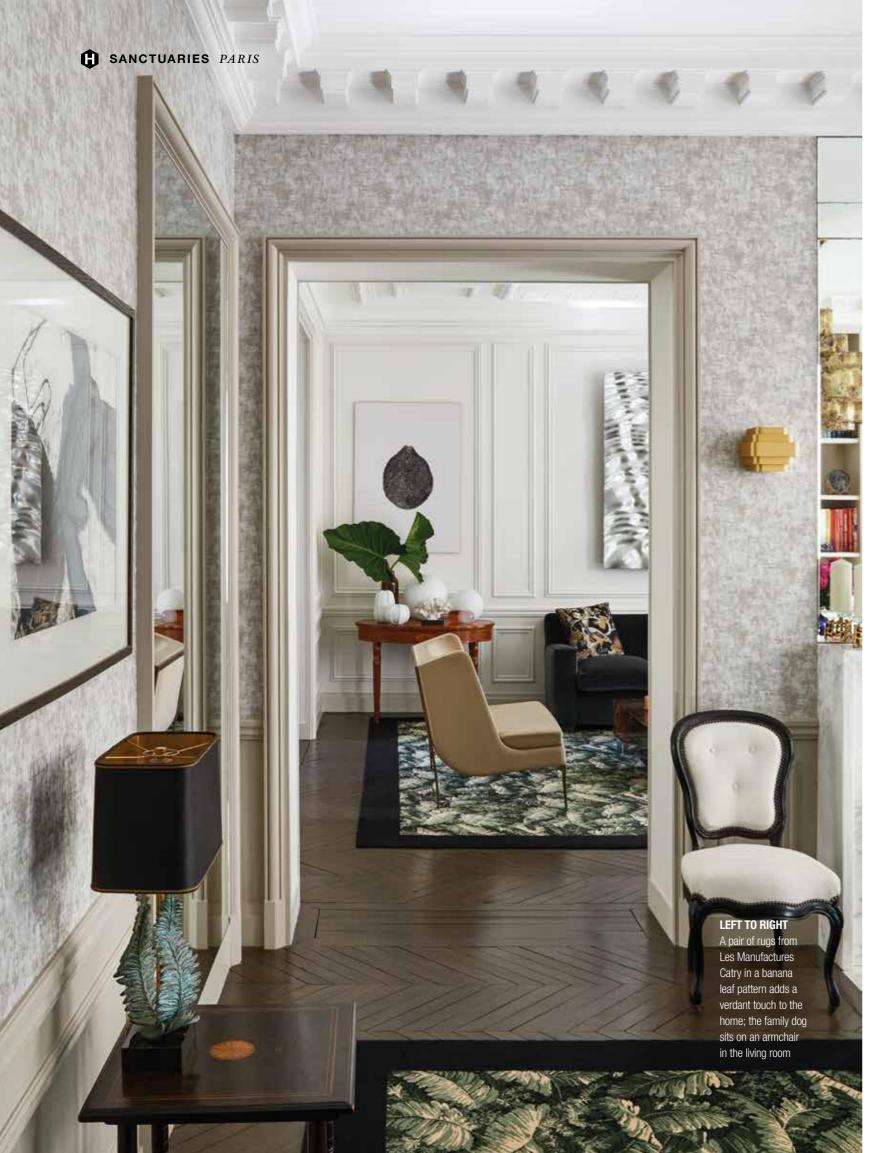
STUDIO ITALIA DESIGN

Marquis QSquare marquis.com.sg studioitaliadesign.com

SUGO

The Artling iamsugo.com theartling.com

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RETRO REVIVAL

A WIDE VARIETY OF DECOR STYLES, MATERIALS AND TEXTURES IS ELEGANTLY BROUGHT TOGETHER IN THIS DESIGNER COUPLE'S HOME

SIONAGE VHOVED CHOOSE HOX E FELDIN VO







t was happenstance that brought
Kelli Wilde and Laurent Champeau
together—the couple met while
working at the Paris office of the
prestigious Mlinaric, Henry &
Zervudachi interior design agency.
Wilde, an American art historian and
interior designer, and Champeau, a FrenchBritish architect and designer, founded their
own interior design studio, Champeau &
Wilde, in 2011.

Since then, the dynamic duo have worked on luxury homes in both the US and France. Their unique design approach combines revitalised, classical French sophistication with contemporary comfort—and the couple's signature style is exemplified in their recently completed new home, a two-bedroom apartment in the culturally vibrant Nouvelle Athènes district in Paris.

The 1,600sqft property hadn't been altered since 1956, but the couple were particularly impressed with its full-length balcony and the light and space distribution. They spent nine months renovating and furnishing the space to transform it into their dream home.

"THE IDEA WAS TO MIX STYLES... THIS IS PECULIAR TO PARISIAN APARTMENTS; THEY CAN BE HISTORIC YET MODERN"



THIS PAGE

Reupholstered in a playful leopard print fabric, the vintage chairs by the fireplace date to the late 19th century; a gold pendant light by Robert Lemariey is the centrepiece of the dining room

OPPOSITE PAGE

A vintage glass dining table is paired with the iconic Platner armchairs designed by Warren Platner for Knoll; key pieces in the living room include a Maison Jansen sofa upholstered in a velvet Dedar fabric and Roche Bobois coffee tables from the 1970s



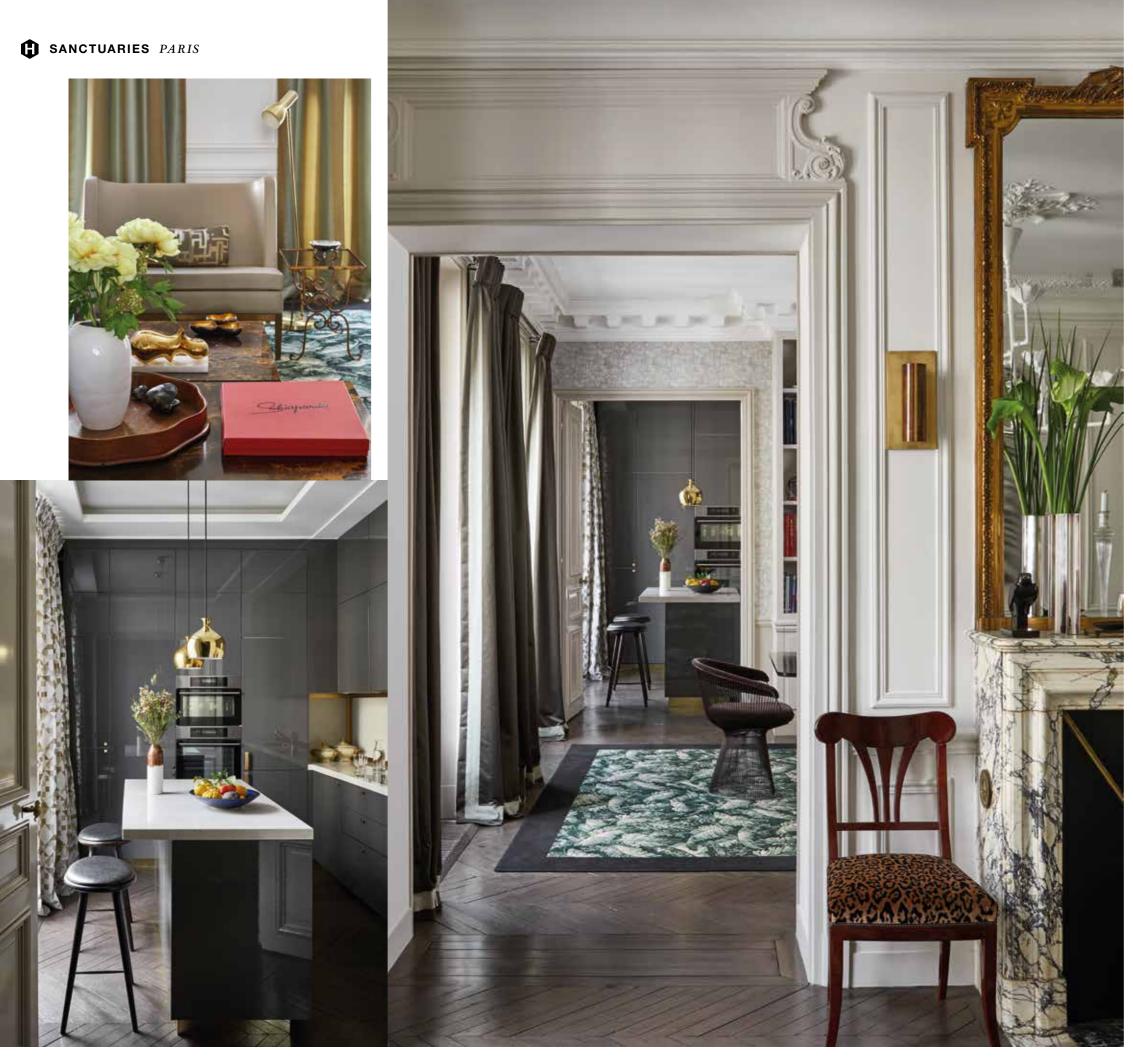
"The idea was to mix styles, like the contemporary fireplace that we designed, juxtaposed with an 18th-century cornice," explains Champeau, who redesigned the interiors to accentuate the 3.2m-high ceilings and the balcony. "This is peculiar to Parisian apartments; they can be historic yet modern." They retained the classical aesthetics of the original space, but reconfigured the layout so the interiors resemble a large loft while reflecting elements of a hallmark French period home. The new floor plan enabled more expansive living and dining spaces with room for a double-hearth fireplace.

The couple preserved and restored the original hardwood floors, ceiling mouldings, doors and jambs in the dining room, and the marble fireplace in the living room. The original floors were stained in a more contemporary chocolate colour, and the walls were painted a subtle, creamy white to update the classical architectural details. The entryway was furnished with Portuguese stone flooring and a vintage wall lamp. The living room, dining room, kitchen and master bedroom form an enfilade—a suite of rooms formally aligned with each other, which were a common feature of grand European houses from the Baroque period onwards.





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"A HOME SHOULD BE A PLACE TO LIVE... IT SHOULD BE A WELL-DESIGNED, INVITING AND DISCRETELY LUXURIOUS PLACE WHERE ONE FEELS COMFORTABLE LIVING AND ENTERTAINING"



STYLISH MONTAGE

Most of the furniture was sourced from Galerie XX, a store in Los Angeles that specialises in 20th-century decorative arts and furniture, or the Les Puces de Saint-Ouen flea market in Paris. Some of the items are contemporary, while others are pre-owned vintage pieces. "Two hanging lights by the artist Robert Lemariey have a strong presence in the dining and living rooms," says Wilde. "Although both are very different in style, the one in the dining room anchors the design concept, and the one in the living room has a more subtle poetic presence."

Notable pieces in the living room include a mixture of design elements from different eras such as the Roche Bobois lacquer coffee tables from the 1970s, a '50s antique gilt ironwork table, a late 19th-century Austrian antique chair upholstered in Veraseta silk-velvet leopard print fabric, and a Maison Dutruc Rosset floor lamp with a pleated silk shade from the 1990s.

LEFT TO RIGHT

Objects on the coffee table include a Jonathan Adler Hippopotamus figurine, an antique turned wood tray and bronze sculptures by Manuela Zervudachi; the kitchen features vintage pendant lights and Mater bar stools; a view of the kitchen from the living room; a sliding door connects the living area to the master bedroom

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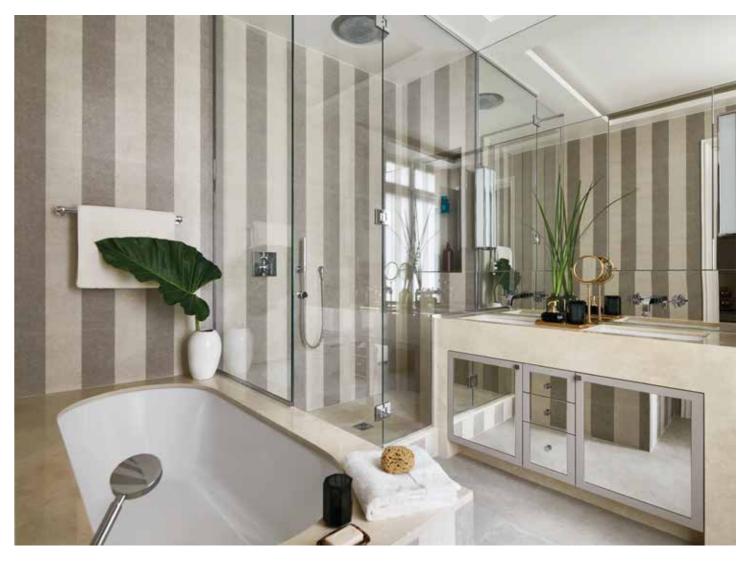






LOCATION TYPE OF PROPER
Paris, France Apartment

PROPERTY SI 1,600sqft INTERIOR DESIGN Champeau & Wilde **TIME TAKEN**9 months



As a nod to the dining room's original gothic theme, Wilde and Champeau incorporated dragon-detailed handles on the windows in this space. They also included an illuminated bookcase, a mid-century dining table with a Saint-Gobain glass top, and Warren Platner-designed Knoll chairs to give the dining space a touch of sultry glamour. Lacquer cabinets with Remy Garnier decorative hardware, Danish vintage pendant lights, and geometric print curtain fabric were used in the kitchen.

In the master bedroom, which looks out to a planted courtyard, is a headboard and nightstand designed by Champeau & Wilde, a velvet side chair that's a 1980s prototype from Liaigre, and a metal sun sculpture by artisan metalwork brand Curtis Jere.

Wilde used mirrors to enlarge and brighten the rooms and to create a sense of symmetry throughout. She enhanced the diverse furniture styles with antique pieces, flea market finds, metalwork, artworks, as well as custom-made pieces. "We used

THIS PAGE

The cabinetry and Kaldewei bathtub in the master bathroom both feature a Crema Marfil marble top

OPPOSITE PAGE

The master

bedroom features
a custom-made
headboard,
a Curtis Jere
sculpture and
vintage table
lamps; a Rosa
Nguyen artwork is
displayed above
a side table; the
entryway features
a Knoll Platner
chair and a
vintage wall light

a diverse mix of materials throughout the apartment—a glass dining table, a metal hanging lamp, lacquer coffee tables, and a plaster chandelier, for example," says Champeau.

MIX AND MATCH

From the fine-veined marble fireplace mantel to the banana-leaf print rug by Les Manufactures Catry, the rippling *Seascapes* aluminium alloy artwork by Gregory Ryan in the living room to the varied textiles—in leopard, geometric, floral and striped patterns—this home is an eclectic and skilfully composed symphony of colours, materials and textures.

"A home should be a place to live; not a cold space or an art gallery," says Wilde. "It should be a well-designed, inviting and discretely luxurious place where one feels comfortable living and entertaining." Indeed, the couple certainly succeeded in bringing this philosophy to life in their Parisian abode. •

LIVING LARGE

The open-plan living room has increasingly become a hallmark of the modern home. Here's how to seamlessly integrate it with your kitchen and dining areas

emoving walls and partitions between your living, dining and kitchen areas helps maximise floor space—this open-plan layout can also foster a stronger sense of areas of your home. When deciding on the layout for such an open-plan space, William Chan, founder of Spacedge Designs, says it's important that the floor plan is human-centric and promotes ease of movement. "First, study the structural restrictions of the interior architecture, then come up with solutions that will enhance the connected spaces both visually and functionally," he says.

To unify the living, kitchen and dining areas, Kate Deng, co-founder of interior

design firm Mr. Shopper Studio prefers to use the same flooring material and complementary colours throughout. "You can use different materials and textures for the furniture and decor in the different areas, but it's important to create some visual togetherness in the communal homogeneity so the space is aesthetically coherent," she says. Clifton Leung, founder of Hong Kong-based practice Clifton Leung Design Workshop suggests choosing loose furniture and lighting from the same collection and sticking with one design or material for the built-in cabinetry for all three areas. "You can vary the sizes, finishings, textures or colours of soft furnishings to add interest and complexity," he says. Here are some ideas to help you design a beautiful and efficient open-plan space.



THE LIVING AREA **CLOCKWISE FROM TOP LEFT** 1. Cassina Dress Up! sofa and Boboli tables by Roldofo Dordoni,

According to Kate Deng, a square layout visually opens up the living area. "If there are corner walls, we like to clad these in full-length mirrors to make the recessed area disappear, so the space looks wider." Another way to make walls less conspicuous is with wallpaper, which acts as a visual cue indicating a shift in the interior scheme. A versatile and elegant choice is Palawan, an art deco-inspired wall covering from Zimmer+Rohde. Palawan is made with different types of partially pleated papers that are hand-dyed with natural colouring and then combined to create a wallpaper that mimics the texture of

For living room furniture, Deng suggests lower-backed sofas and round coffee tables to soften sharp corners. A good low-back model is the Dante sofa by Italian brand Black Tie, which combines a classical silhouette with soft, contemporary lines. For a coffee table, Iliade from French brand Liaigre is an unobtrusive and elegant piece. Designed by creative director Frauke Meyer, this chic table has a low profile, and consists of a sturdy cedar wood top and base held together by bronze insets.

from Space Furniture 2. Saba Italia Voyage sofa by Sergio Bicego, from P5 Studio 3. Zimmer+Rohde Palawan wallpaper, from Cetec 4, 5. Porada Hilton room divider and Drift sideboard, from Marquis QSquare 6. Iliade coffee table, from Liaigre 7. Bangkok outdoor ottoman, from Flexform 8. Black Tie Dante sofa, from Sphere Living **9.** Cesar coffee tables by Rodolfo Dordoni, from Minotti 10. Poltrona Frau Xi floor lamp by Neri&Hu, from **Proof Living**



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THE DINING ZONE

Feature walls or ceilings can be used to mark a change in design scheme, as well as add depth and warmth. "A wood-clad ceiling with pendant lamps creates cosiness within this space, while distinguishing it from the living and kitchen areas," says Deng. Another way to demarcate the dining area is with a rug, such as the reversible San Francisco collection from Woodnotes.

Deng also suggests placing the dining table in the middle of the space rather than against the wall for better circulation. A sleek option is the Alamo dining table from Lema. This table has a reconstructed marble top composed of resin, pigmented marble powder and metal shavings, which rests atop a bronze-coated metal frame.

When it comes to dining chairs, Deng often opts for those with lower backrests so the view of the top of the table isn't blocked. "Cushioned or rounded-edged chairs are good as they soften the space," she says. A good example of such a chair is the Spring stackable dining chair from Tonon, which can also be used outdoors and stored out of sight when not in use. "If the client wants some level of stylistic separation between the dining and living areas, we sometimes use simple tubeshaped or round pendant lights, and hang them at approximately 75cm above the dining table so that the overall height stays at 1.5m above the floor, without obstructing the eye-level view of the space," says Deng.

CLOCKWISE FROM TOP LEFT

1. Lema Alamo table by David Lopez Quincoces, from W. Atelier 2. Woodnotes San Francisco rug by Ritva Puotila, from P5 Studio 3. Tonon Spring dining chairs, from

Sphere Living 4. Roll & Hill Boden pendant lamp by David Weeks, from Space Furniture 5. Meridiani Hubert dining table and Isetta chairs, from Marquis QSquare

6. Ardecora Lipari upholstery textile by Zimmer+Rohde, from Cetec 7. Andreu World Nuez chair by Patricia Urquiola, from Xtra



THE KITCHEN

"An open-plan kitchen needs to be in sync with the other two areas, so invest in high-quality appliances and fittings that will work well with the overall interior theme," says William Chan. Clifton Leung agrees; he believes it's hard to go wrong with a kitchen island that doubles as a bar to bring people together. "People can move from the dining area to the island for cocktails, snacks and conversation. Islands are also great impromptu workstations, so you should choose comfortable seating," he says.

To make the most of your kitchen island, consider the Lio-Leo stools from Zanotta. These aluminium-framed stools have footrests in satinfinished stainless steel and cushy seats with polyurethane upholstery. Removable covers mean you won't have to worry about stains, and can always update the upholstery for a new look.

Some kitchen systems work better for openconcept kitchens. These include Dada's INDada, which allows for infinite configurations, materials, and colours to match the aesthetic of your interior scheme. Another chic option is the Boffi K kitchen systems, which feature ingenious sliding tops that can conceal work areas when they're not in use. This means a utilitarian kitchen can transform into a streamlined snack bar, dining area or even office area when the chef isn't cooking. 0



1. Zanotta Lio-Leo stools by Roberto Barbieri, from W. Atelier 2. Mood party tableware, from Christofle 3. K14 kitchen system by Norbert Wangen, from Boffi 4. Visionnaire Serendipity bar cabinet, from Marquis QSquare 5. Dada INDada kitchen system by Nicola Gallizia, from P5 6. KS194TL/TR wine chiller, from Kadeka





ANDREU WORLD

Xtra xtra.com.sg

BLACK TIE, TONON

Sphere Living sphereliving.sg

BOFFI

boffi.com

CASSINA. ROLL & HILL

Space Furniture spacefurniture.com.sg

CHRISTOFLE

christofle.com

DADA

P5 p5.com.sg

FLEXFORM

flexform.sg

KADEKA

kadeka.sg

LEMA, ZANOTTA

W. Atelier watelier.com

LIAIGRE

liaigre.com

MERIDIANI, PORADA, VISIONNAIRE

Marquis QSquare marquis.com.sg

MINOTTI

minotti.com

POLTRONA FRAU

Proof Living proof.com.sg

SABA ITALIA, WOODNOTES

P5 Studio p5studio.com.sg

ZIMMER+ROHDE

Cetec cetec.com.hk





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kitchen is basically a workshop and crafting a dish is complex work for the serious cook," says Ed Ng, __co-founder of

Hong Kong-based studio AB Concept. He explains that the home chef's kitchen should be designed to help its owner conserve time and energy, so they can focus on their craft. "So it's important to make sure that everything that's needed—pans, knifes, plates, ingredients—can be conveniently accessed," he adds.

The studio's gourmand clients generally own state-of-the-art appliances and tools, so the next step for the AB Concept team would be to create a kitchen design that best accommodates such equipment. "Passionate cooks also like collecting beautiful dinnerware sets, which they often use when they entertain," says the designer. "Because of this, we create display areas so our clients can showcase their collections." For large kitchens, he suggests double-loaded layouts with two parallel workstations, one placed against the wall and the other an elongated, fully equipped island counter. "Such a layout gives cooks plenty of room to place their ingredients and tools, and they can move from one workstation to another with ease," explains Ng.





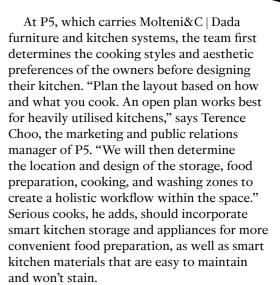
HOT AND HANDSOME

Combining texturally engaging materials like cast iron and glass, De Dietrich's Absolute Black collection of powerful kitchen appliances comes in deep black with sophisticated copper finishing. The collection includes a variety of induction hobs, gas burners, grills, hoods, microwaves, warming drawer and multifunctional ovens with technology that allows you to cook with the precision of a professional chef.



COFFEE CULTURE

The fully automatic 400 series espresso machines from Gaggenau are a great way to make a cup of coffee exactly the way you like it. Connected to your water source, the machine has a self-cleaning programme and is constantly supplied with water so you won't need to refill the tank. The machine can save up to eight of your favourite beverage configurations; you can even customise beverage size, coffee strength, coffee-milk ratio water temperature, and how coarsely or finely you want your beans ground.



Elden Lim, creative director and founder of interior design consultancy Minimo recommends bright and airy open-plan concepts that allow passionate cooks to showcase their skills in front of their guests. "Consider including both a dry kitchen where family and guests can have snacks and light meals, and a wet kitchen where the messier, more heavy duty tasks like wok-frying take place," says Lim. With their suggestions in mind, here are some products that would work well in a home chef's kitchen.

SPACES KITCHEN







4



3

CULINARY TALK

Cook fish encased in ice and pull off other culinary feats with the Dialog oven from the Generation 7000 series by Miele. Using electromagnetic waves and intelligent sensors, the oven is able to cook food in a variety of methods simultaneously—a salmon fillet for instance, can be cooked in two halves, such that one half is fully cooked while the other remains raw to be served sashimi-style.

BRIGHT IDEA

2

First produced in 1931, the Kaiser Idell lamp from Fritz Hansen has become a classicit epitomises the Bauhaus movement's ethos of creating versatile, functional designs that still remain relevant today. Now available in a smaller size and in four new high-gloss colours, the lamp makes a colourful addition to any space, whether used as a single lamp or as a line of lights floating above the dining table.

3

WARM IT UP

If you entertain regularly, you'll know how frustrating it can be to prepare a hot dish but have it turn cold by the time your guests arrive. V-Zug helps to solve this problem with warming drawers that keep food toasty before serving time. These drawers come with touch controls that save your frequent settings and also additional functions for drying, defrosting and low-temperature cooking.

CONTEMPORARY CLASSIC

Antique details from classical European kitchens are combined with modern aesthetics in Masa, a stylish system by Miton Cucine that features luxurious Carrara marble surfaces. White lacquered columns, bases and wall mounts, natural oak worktops, and brushed stainless steel pulls come together in Masa to create a contemporary classic that's pure, functional, and timelessly elegant.

RUGGED EDGE

A perfect simulation of cement and concrete, Dekton's four new additions to the Industrial series will add a rugged touch to your kitchen. Made with 80 per cent recycled material, the designs include Trillium (seen above), which is inspired by volcanic stones; Radium, which is influenced by patinated steel and Nilum, which takes its cues from oxidised silver; and Orix, which mimics worn cement.

SPICK AND SPAN

Cleaning your oven may be one of the most time-consuming kitchen tasks. Teka helps you take care of this problem with its latest self-cleaning ovens. Teka's Dual clean range offers you two options: Pyrolysis, which uses high heat to eliminate food residue so you can easily remove it with a cloth, and Hydroclean, a patented system that uses steam to remove surface dirt.

BY THE BAR

Make your kitchen counter a space to gather by including bar stools so that guests can sit and chat while having cocktails and snacks. Designed by Christophe Pillet for Emeco, the Sezz stools are lightweight and portable. These seats are made of 80 per cent recycled aluminium, have a strong industrial aesthetic, and marry comfort and style to create versatile pieces that work well with modern concepts.

WHERE TO GO

3

DE DIETRICH

de-dietrich.com

DEKTON

Cosentino cosentino.com dekton.com

EMECO

Space Furniture emeco.net spacefurniture.com

FRITZ HANSEN

fritzhansen.com

GAGGENAU

gaggenau-asia.com

MIELE

miele.sg

MITON CUCINE

W. Atelier miton.it watelier.com

MOLTENI&C | DADA

P5 molteni.it p5.com.sg

TEKA

teka.com

V-ZUG vzug.com

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