

Kitchen Design 2013

KITCHENS ARE MORE THAN A PLACE TO PREPARE MEALS; they are the heart of the home. Families gather in kitchens to interact with one another. Children perch on a center island to do homework while mom makes dinner. Friends enjoy a cup of coffee together. The kitchen is a place to display china and other collectables against a backdrop that reflects the homeowner's personality. It is a place to tempt all the senses.

This year's Kitchen Design section represents the most inspiring of custom kitchen design throughout Texas. Each room is a perfect combination of luxury design, high-tech appliances and seamless space management. The designers and builders whose projects are featured have meticulously planned these designs to couple convenience with styles that fit the homeowners' tastes. Stunning color schemes, beautiful custom cabinetry and unique lighting are found in the next few pages. Inspiration abounds for kitchen remodels.



Design/Construction by Carol Gantt, Gantt Design
Photography by Ruda Anderson,
Ruda Anderson Photography

A 1929 SWISS AVENUE MANSION, the home stood almost untouched until the homeowners found it several years ago. The finishes throughout the home are almost completely original, except the kitchen, which had been badly remodeled several times. The homeowner charged Carol Gantt, of Gantt Design, with remodeling the muddled kitchen to make it look as though it had always been there. They wanted the kitchen to reflect the period-style of the rest of the home, while having modern conveniences as both homeowners enjoy cooking.

The materials and finishes are a result of the collaboration between the homeowner and Gantt, a construction consultant and designer. Gantt copied many details from other parts of the house, such as the stained glass above the kitchen windows, the cabinet style and shape of the upper door panels, and the arch in the passage from the kitchen to the breakfast room. The homeowner found the drawer and cabinet pulls, plus the beautiful faucet and sinks.

Cabinetmaker Daycor Enterprises copied many details at Gantt's request to create cabinets that appear original to the home. Contractor Ed Jarrett and supervisor Josh Brown ensured that every inch of workmanship was outstanding. "Every detail seemed to matter to them as much as it mattered to me," Gantt said. The entire project took about a year to complete, as they had to work within the Swiss Avenue Historical District framework, which keeps the neighborhood cohesive and protects property values.