

INTO THE WOODS

Open windows above a farmhouse sink welcome light and fresh summer air into the woodsy kitchen of this family-friendly house near North Lake Tahoe, California.

KITCHENS

FROM WARM AND RUSTIC TO CRISP AND MODERN, HERE'S WHAT'S COOKING FOR 2018

STORY SUZANNE S. BROWN

KITCHENS

Kitchens that are as beautiful to look at as they are functional top homeowner wish lists when building or remodeling a mountain residence.

The cook in the family wants top-of-the-line appliances, a good layout, ample lighting and storage. Since everyone invariably spends so much time in the kitchen—whether or not they’re contributing to meal prep—comfortable seating at a roomy island or table is a must.

Being connected to the rest of the home’s main living spaces is another key design element, says Jennifer Macdonald, owner of Jennifer Robin Interiors in San Anselmo, California.

“A floor plan where the kitchen opens up to a dining room and great room has been consistent because it works,” she says. “There’s also a trend of indoor-outdoor living, and the kitchen is a key connector between a home’s interior and exterior play spaces.”

Such were the elements that Macdonald focused on when designing a family’s Lake Tahoe vacation home—with the additional requirement of easy maintenance. “With three kids under the age of 10, durability was important,” she says.

Her project, along with a sampling of kitchens by designers throughout the Rocky Mountain West, appears in the following pages.



PHOTOS PAUL DYER



GATHER ROUND

A light-filled kitchen with views of their wooded lot was a priority for California homeowners building a vacation residence to enjoy with their three young children and a steady stream of family and friends. The waterfall-edge island is made of stain-resistant NuCrete. Reclaimed wood cabinets, rustic French oak floors and a stained Douglas fir ceiling lend mountain charm. Magni Home’s hand-blown glass pendant lights and custom Knoll stools with faux leather upholstery add luxe, livable touches.

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