

DREAM Kitchens

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31 Exquisite Looks

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Two islands break up the large room into more intimate units. The larger island, with the curved black-granite top, allows guests to pull up stools and interact with the cook without getting in the way.



Everlasting European

A true classic never goes out of style, as this *très chic* kitchen proves. By pairing a characteristic French template with modern amenities, the kitchen easily embodies the *joie de vivre* of the entire home. The room's timeless character and understated elegance show that traditional French style boasts serious staying power.

Though some of the professional-grade appliances are kept in plain sight, they go virtually unnoticed against the crisp white cabinetry that stretches from floor to ceiling. Paired with shiny silver hardware, the cabinetry reflects warm sunlight and creates an ambience that's distinctly French. Elaborate crown



molding sits atop cabinetry, drawing the eye to elegant creamware displays housed in the glass-front cabinets. Striking, white carrara-marble counters surround the main sink and cooktop, while subway tiles of the same material form a visually appealing backsplash, weaving the marble's cool refinement around the room. To further the cohesive look, the light gray grout between the subway tiles matches the gray vein in the marble countertops and tiles.

Aligned in the heart of the kitchen, two islands serve up a double helping of functionality. One island boasts a cabinetry-matching base and a black honed-granite countertop that contrasts with the kitchen's signature hue. Used primarily for entertaining, its curved countertop edge provides comfortable

legroom for guests perched on stools. The other island, featuring a whimsical walnut-and-maple checkerboard top, projects an earthy, natural feel. A prep sink installed in the second island helps it serve as a dominant work zone. Though they differ in appearance and function, both islands' furniture styles also allude to the space's French inspiration.

Stained dark and burned at the edges for a timeworn appearance, walnut planks line the floor. The flooring's aged look radiates warmth against the cool white hues and contemporary stainless-steel appliances, illustrating that French style isn't going out of fashion anytime soon. **DK**

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CLOCKWISE FROM TOP LEFT: A polished-nickel faucet with angled handles is an elegant addition to the prep island.

The arch motif found throughout the kitchen presents itself above the sink, mimicking traditional French style.

Above the cooktop, square carrara-marble tiles enliven an arched niche. The niche shelf conveniently corrals cooking essentials, keeping them within reach.

OPPOSITE: The checkerboard-pattern prep island top—created by gluing together 2x2-inch pieces of walnut and maple—adds whimsy. Open space below is perfect for holding baskets.