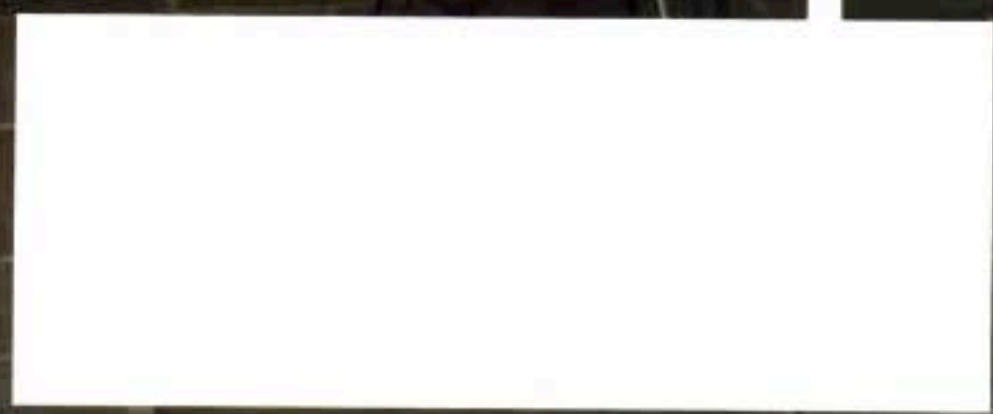


Custom Home

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2007 Kitchen & Bath Design Guide

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2007 Kitchen & Bath Trends

Shapes and Textures

By Meghan Drueding

Now that exotic materials, spa-like fixtures, and restaurant-style appliances have entered the mainstream in high-end kitchens and baths, top builders and architects are looking for other ways to set their work apart from the crowd. They're gravitating toward bold geometric shapes, particularly organic-looking curves. They're also growing adept at appealing to our sense of touch, layering different surfaces and finishes throughout a kitchen or bath for interesting and beautiful effects. This new attention to shapes and textures results in spaces that feel creative, energetic, and even exuberant. Read ahead for ideas on incorporating graphic forms and dimensional patterns into your next kitchen or bath.



The undulating cabinet fronts in this Seattle kitchen contrast with the rough texture of plaster backsplash tiles. (For more of this kitchen, turn the page.)

Pattern Language



When designing this expanded and remodeled kitchen in a 1932 Seattle home, architect Nils Finne faced a common dilemma. "We thought, how do we do a kitchen that dovetails with the older home but seems fresh, 2007?" he says. ■ Finne and his staff answered his own question with a sophisticated interplay of textures and patterns against a light putty-colored background. Randomly spaced recessed niches are spread out across the painted wood ceiling, mirroring the random-width oak floorboards. "The variable slots align with the recessed lighting," he says. "It was a way of integrating the lighting into the ceiling." Custom cabinet fronts feature a raised, reedlike pattern designed by Finne and cut by a CNC (computer numerical control) router. When the rear of the house was demolished to make way for the enlarged kitchen, parts of the original brick exterior walls remained in place to mark the line between old and new. A backsplash of rustic plaster tiles and a limestone fireplace surround add to the textural variety. ■ Above the three-sided fireplace sits a wood-fired pizza oven, something the owners had dreamed about

for years. In addition to spacious food prep areas, the 500-square-foot room contains a reading niche and a corner breakfast nook with a steel-and-mahogany table custom designed by Finne. Natural light pours into the entire space through the north wall's bank of steel-framed windows, chosen to honor the steel windows of the original Tudor Revival house. "The whole kitchen becomes a place they never leave," says Finne. ■

Project Credits: Builder: Schultz Miller Construction, Seattle; Architect: Finne Architects, Seattle; Project size: 500 square feet; Construction cost: Withheld; Photography: Benjamin Benschneider. ■ Resources: Backsplash: Pratt and Larson, Circle 435; Dishwasher/steam oven/plate warmer: Miele, Circle 436; Fireplace/pizza oven tile: Ann Sacks, Circle 437; Oven: Dacor, Circle 438; Paint: Benjamin Moore, Circle 439; Plumbing fixtures: Elkay, Circle 440, Hansgrohe, Circle 441, and In-Sink-Erator, Circle 442; Range: Wolf, Circle 443; Refrigerator: Sub-Zero, Circle 444; Vent hood: Ventahood, Circle 445; Windows: Hopes, Circle 446.

