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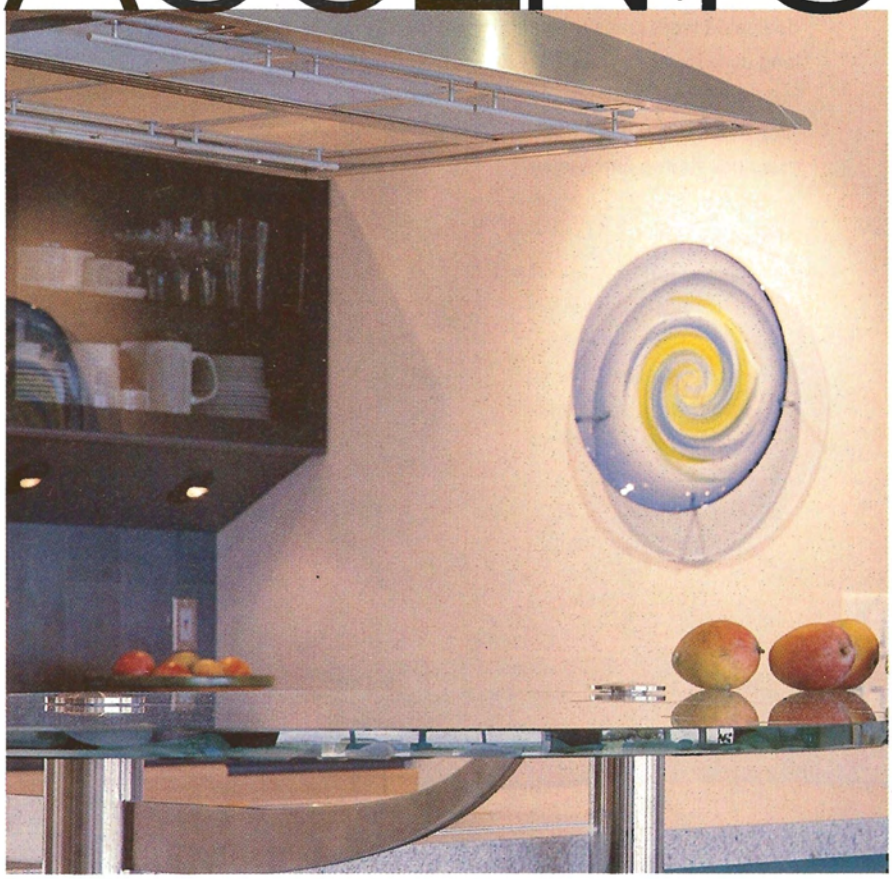
A wave of design details gives this contemporary seaside kitchen an art gallery ambience.

artful ACCENTS



Perched on a cliff overlooking the Pacific Ocean, this ranch-style home is anchored by its sea-inspired kitchen. The owner, an entrepreneur and art glass collector, gathered designers and artists to create a sleek and contemporary design infused with sensual curvilinear details. The rounded edges of the cabinets, the curved soffits and the swirling waves etched in the carved glass countertop and flyover create the room's dynamic flow. "The kitchen was the hub of the entire home renovation," says architect Richard Young, who, along with kitchen designer Michelle Wagner, designed the room. "We wanted every detail to add interest and excitement to the space." —*Kathryn Pritchett*

THIS PAGE: The granite-topped island with its dramatic stainless steel hood is the focal point of the kitchen. Fiber-optic lights are embedded in the carved glass flyover. OPPOSITE: The owner helped design the ¾-inch-thick glass counter's curved buttress and chrome support posts.

LEFT: The curved soffits give an illusion of height to the 8-foot ceilings and break up the stark geometry of the room. Both the island countertop and floor are almond/mauve granite. A combination of cabinet finishes—emerald green lacquer and horizontal grain walnut—adds interest. BELOW: The curving shapes of the sink cabinet and the wall cabinet to the left of the window create a sense of movement in the room.

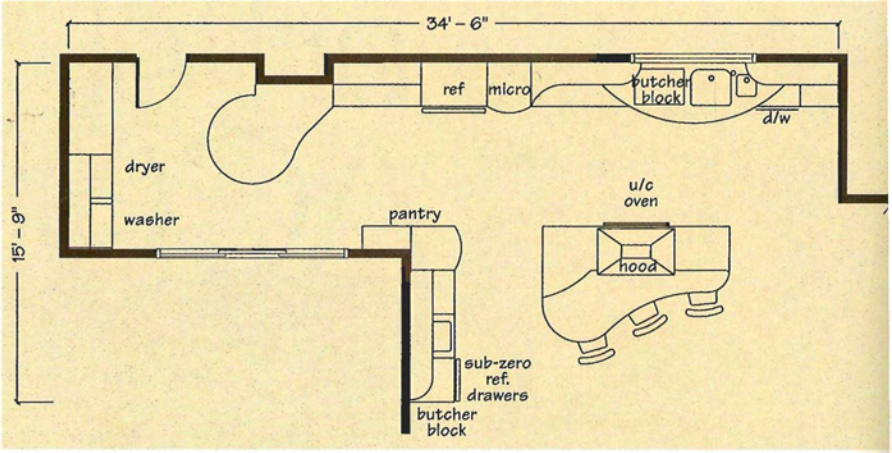
SEE BUYING GUIDE FOR DETAILS

design points

style

- The emerald green of the lacquered cabinets adds a bold feeling while the high-gloss wood cabinets add warmth.
- Textured blue-green ceramic tiles cut into rectangles and offset from each other create a subtle and unique backsplash.
- Adjustable spotlights can highlight artwork.

function

- The countertop materials—granite, textured laminate, stainless steel, carved glass and butcher block—accommodate different tasks.
- Recessed lighting under the wall cabinets illuminates countertop work space.
- European appliances not only complement the look of the Italian cabinetry but are also quiet and energy efficient.

RIGHT: Several small rooms were opened up to accommodate the kitchen, eating area and laundry nook. A tight work triangle and dedicated work areas break up the long corridor feeling. BELOW: Artist Heather Robyn Matthews etched a pattern she calls "Ebb Tide" into the glass countertop and flyover.