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# House Beautiful

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SCAN TO PIN THIS  
KITCHEN TO YOUR  
PINTEREST BOARD

KITCHEN OF THE MONTH

## Black-Tie Service

In suburban Chicago, Frank Ponterio uses luxe materials and custom details to craft a showstopping kitchen.

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EDITORS

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KITCHEN OF THE MONTH



“If you want to pull out all the stops, start with a La Cornue range,” designer Frank Ponterio says. It’s the dark center of a wall of white cabinetry, and its elegant brass trim inspired the brass fixtures, which are unlacquered so they will mellow over time. Then he picked up the black with Pietra Cardosa stone on the counters, dark furniture, and a dark floor. “It’s a handsome, black-tie look that suits this traditional 100-year-old house.”

Savvy choices highlight the exquisite range

- 1 INVISIBLE FRIDGE**  
Twin 36-inch Sub-Zero refrigerators with freezer drawers are integrated into the cabinetry, so the focus remains on the star of the show—that range. “Everything else is part of the backdrop,” Ponterio says.
- 2 BUTCHER BLOCK**  
This separate piece was designed to function as a cutting board and look like an antique chest. It holds knives, serving pieces, and linens. During a party, it’s the perfect place to set out the hors d’oeuvres.
- 3 BRIGHT LIGHTS**  
Two classic Wilton lanterns by Jamb are beautifully made and “fit the DNA of the house,” Ponterio says. “I needed something to balance the visual weight of the hood without overpowering the room.”
- 4 MATCHING HOOD**  
“The La Cornue Château 150 is not your ordinary stove,” Ponterio says. “It’s basically a Rolls-Royce you can cook on.” He designed a hood detailed to match in black powder-coated metal with brass straps.
- 5 MARBLE PANELS**  
One entire wall—even the window casings—is covered in Calacatta Gold marble. Then Ponterio added another level of interest—the marble above the range is cut and pieced together to form recessed panels.



1

TRANSFORM A PIECE OF FURNITURE FOR THE KITCHEN BY TOPPING IT WITH A BIG SLAB OF BUTCHER BLOCK.

2

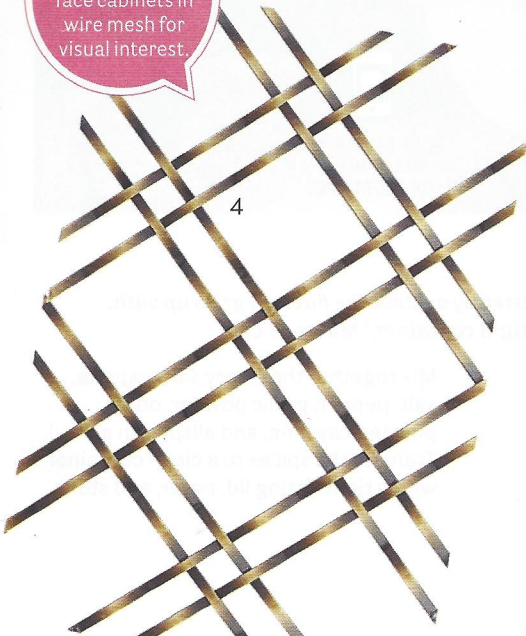


A bar sink creates a separate space for prep and storage.



3

As an alternative to wood or glass, face cabinets in wire mesh for visual interest.



4



5

6



## GET THE LOOK

### 1. FAUCET AND HANDLES

Julia Three-Hole Kitchen Faucet with Porcelain Lever Handles in Unlacquered Brass. \$1,841. [waterworks.com](http://waterworks.com)

### 2. CHEST

Julian Chest shown in Brownstone. Available in 34 finishes. \$1,449. [ethanallen.com](http://ethanallen.com)

### 3. CABINET KNOBS

Sheraton Knob in Antiqued Brass. \$55 each. [whitechapel-ltd.com](http://whitechapel-ltd.com)

### 4. WIRE-MESH GRILLE INSERT

Pattern #322 in Antique Brass. From \$300 per sheet. [walcraft.com](http://walcraft.com)

### 5. COPPER POT

By Ruffoni. Artichoke-Handled 12-Quart Stockpot. \$475. [williams-sonoma.com](http://williams-sonoma.com)

### 6. 30-INCH RANGE

Château 75 Range in Brilliant Black and Brushed Brass. From \$22,000. [lacornueusa.com](http://lacornueusa.com)