

# drew + jonathan reveal

THE BRILLIANT  
HOME ISSUE

WINTER 2022

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Exclusive story  
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ILLUSTRATION BY COLIN HAYES. OPPOSITE: PHOTOGRAPH BY FRANCIS SZKOWSKI/OTTO ARCHIVE. ARCHITECT/DESIGNER: KEVIN DAKAN ARCHITECT.

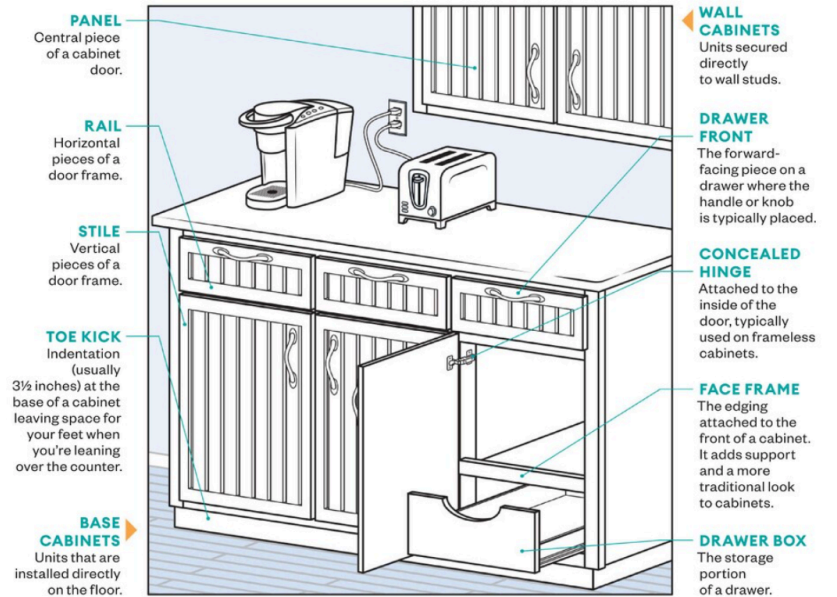
## DESIGN 101 cabinet fever

Whether you're looking to update your kitchen or overhaul it, start with the cabinets, which take up a lot of real estate and set the tone for the entire room.

BY LAURA KOSTELNY

### HELPFUL VOCAB

Study up before you begin shopping for kitchen cabinets. (No, there won't be a quiz.)



### + 3 COMMON CABINET STYLES

**Frameless Cabinets**  
A unit that has no front edging—the front shows all the sides of the cabinet box.

**Overlay Style**  
Doors and drawers that have an equal amount of overlap on top of the edges of the cabinet opening area.

**Inset Style**  
Doors and drawers that fit flush with the face of the cabinet when closed and require a pull or handle in order to open.



## MATERIAL INFORMATION

Budget often dictates cabinet material, but there are plenty of appealing options even when you're watching the bottom line.

	PROS	CONS
<b>Alder</b> Looking for a rustic feel? This is the wood for you!	It's far cheaper than cherry or walnut; you can choose from knotty or clear depending on your location.	It's a softer wood, so it's more susceptible to dents and damage.
<b>Maple</b> Comes with a tight grain, which means it accepts paint and stain very well.	It's fairly inexpensive and it's pretty even without color or stain.	As maple ages, it may take on a yellow hue.
<b>Medium-density fiberboard (MDF)</b> Engineered wood that looks like the real deal.	It's inexpensive, stands up to humidity and moisture without warping, holds onto color, and can last longer than wood.	It's not "real" and it's not impervious to all damage—it's easily scratched and doesn't do well in outdoor kitchens due to high temps.
<b>Oak</b> Rift-cut white oak is very on-trend at the moment.	The wood comes with different graining patterns depending on how it's cut.	It's expensive, and achieving an even stain can be difficult.
<b>Poplar</b> One of the most commonly used woods for utility cabinets.	It's very inexpensive and easy to work with.	It's one of the softest woods you can work with and extremely porous, which means it dents easily and will require a lot of paint or stain.
<b>Walnut</b> A super-versatile woodgrain.	The texture of the wood grain is attractive, and it's dense enough to stand up to everyday wear and tear.	It's among the most expensive woods you can choose.



## ELEMENTS OF STYLE

Cabinet faces can make or break a kitchen's look.

### 1 FARMHOUSE

Inspired by the paneling that's become synonymous with farmhouse kitchens, these are mostly white with beadboard faces.

### 2 FLAT-OR SLAB-PANEL

Ideal for modern kitchens, these feature no embellishments except for simple knobs or handles.

### 3 GLASS-FRONT

Just what they sound like, these cabinets are great for showing off stylish dishware.

### 4 REEDED

Increasingly popular, these feature caned pieces of wood lined up for an extra-textural effect.

### 5 SHAKER

These simple, classic cabinets are made up of four pieces of wood that create a frame and a fifth inset in the center of the door.

### 6 TRADITIONAL

Best for more formal kitchens, this cabinetry is a mix of straight and curved lines and is often finished with elaborate hardware.

Clockwise from top left: Designs by Jeff Andrews; Lindye Galloway; Paloma Contreras; Studio Munroe; Philip Mitchell; Studio Munroe.

THIS PAGE: CLOCKWISE FROM TOP LEFT: PHOTOGRAPHS BY STEPHEN BURKEN; ELIZABETH JOHNSON; MAX BURKHALTER; THOMAS KUOH; ANNE SCHLECHTER; THOMAS KUOH. OPPOSITE: PHOTOGRAPH BY JAMIE VINK; PROP STYLING BY HEATHER GREENE.

**1+2**  
**Behr's Little Black Dress and Cool December by Dunn-Edwards**  
"I'm fond of tuxedo kitchens, and Cool December has been a neutral white staple in my designs for more than 10 years. It's a cooler tone that always seems to open up a space and add tempered brightness."  
—Breegan Jane

**3**  
**Agate Green by Sherwin-Williams**  
"For the client who isn't afraid of color and loves green, this shade brings the outdoors in, and it's so easy to live with."  
—John Marrs

**4**  
**Daredevil**  
"It's a shade of orange that we use lovingly—and sparingly."  
—Beth Dotolo and Carolina Gentry

**5**  
**Tinsmith by Sherwin-Williams**  
"It's a perfect gray that feels modern and fresh—and, yes, timeless."  
—Sara Barney

**6**  
**Hale Navy by Benjamin Moore**  
"You don't have to do the whole kitchen in it. We have a lot of clients who make a statement with just a navy island."  
—Rosemary Lukasiewicz

**7**  
**Dried Thyme by Sherwin-Williams**  
"It's a succulent-inspired soft green that's harmoniously neutral to any landscape-based palette, making it flexible enough to use on its own or with any other colors."  
—Stephanie Pierce

**TRUE COLORS**  
Painting cabinets can cost 20 percent more than staining due to the added labor, says Rosemary Lukasiewicz, kitchen and bath designer at Dalton Carpet One in Georgia. But more people are committing to bold color, according to nearly every designer we asked. Here are some shades they love.

## READY-MADE VS. CUSTOM

Want to change your kitchen's look fast? The quickest and least expensive cabinet option is **manufactured** (also called in-stock or builder-grade). These are mass produced and ready to go in standard sizing and a preselected array of colors and finish combinations. "The downside is what you see is what you get," says designer Breegan Jane.

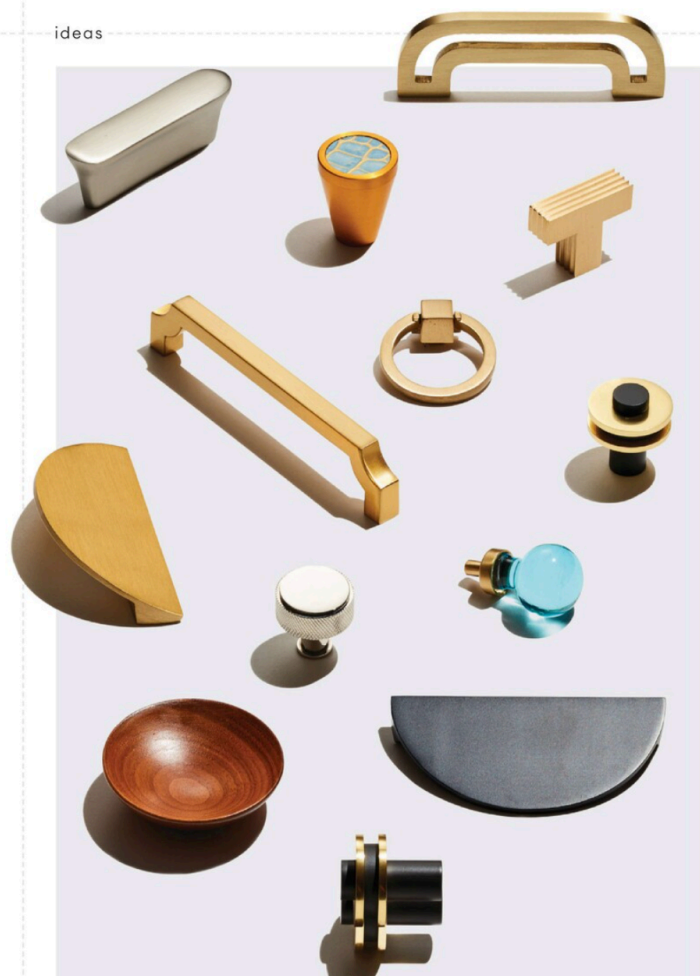
Got a little more time and looking for a little more customization? Go with **stock** cabinetry. While these cabinets are generally produced to standard

size, there's a greater selection of options possible—styles, finishes, and flourishes. They're not built until a customer places the order, but they don't require the lead time and money you'd need for fully customized cabinets.

If money is no object (or time, since materials are limited at the moment, so it may be a few months) consider **custom** cabinets. "There are endless opportunities for placement, features, colors, and sizing," says Lukasiewicz. "With custom cabinets, if you dream it, you can have it, and you can carve out curves that you won't find anywhere else."



ideas



## BIG FINISH

Hardware is like jewelry for your cabinets—i.e., one of the easiest ways to dress them up! Here are some pulls we're drawn to.

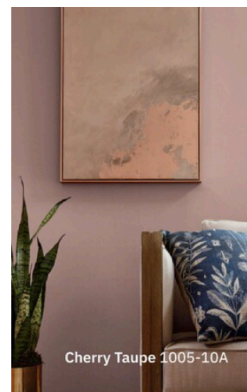
Clockwise from top left: **Minette Solid Brass Cabinet Pull** in Brushed Nickel ([signaturehardware.com](http://signaturehardware.com)), **Cabinet Knob Retro With Insert** ([dilussohardware.com](http://dilussohardware.com)), **Abreau Solid Brass Cabinet Pull** in Satin Brass ([signaturehardware.com](http://signaturehardware.com)), **Cody Brushed Brass Knob** (CB2.com), **Water Street Brass Hudson Ring Pull** ([waterstreetbrass.com](http://waterstreetbrass.com)), **Elroy Cabinet Knob** ([rejuvenation.com](http://rejuvenation.com)), **Bristol Colored Crystal Knob** ([emtek.com](http://emtek.com)), **3" Matte Black Bin Pull** (CB2.com), **Elroy Cabinet Knob** ([rejuvenation.com](http://rejuvenation.com)), **Ashley Norton Yo-Yo Knob** ([ashleynorton.com](http://ashleynorton.com)), **Trask Cabinet Knob** in Polished Nickel ([rejuvenation.com](http://rejuvenation.com)), **3" Brushed Brass Bin Pull** (CB2.com), **Monarch Cabinet Pull** ([houseofantiquehardware.com](http://houseofantiquehardware.com)).

## INSTALLATION INFORMATION

Most people know that cabinets should be installed after painting and before appliances, countertops, and tile work. But whenever possible, they should also be installed after flooring, so that if you (or a future homeowner) decide to tear out or reconfigure the cabinets, the flooring will go all the way to the wall. If timing becomes an issue, it's acceptable to install cabinets first, but not preferred.

When it comes to installation, most designers and manufacturers recommend working with an experienced contractor in order to avoid costly mistakes. "We have a list of trusted installers we've built over the last 10 years, and we recommend it to everyone starting a project, big or small," says John McDonald, CEO of cabinetmaker **Semihandmade and BOXI** by **Semihandmade**. (Find it at [semihandmade.com](http://semihandmade.com).)

PHOTOGRAPH BY JARREN VINK. PROP STYLING BY HEATHER GREENE.



Cherry Taupe 1005-10A



Ginkgo Tree 5006-4B



Autumn Russet 2009-6



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