

OCTOBER 2020

House Beautiful

The KITCHEN Issue

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A DOWNSIZER'S
DREAM KITCHEN P. 82

A Secret
Pantry

COULD CHANGE YOUR LIFE.

(IT'S TRUE!)

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Oak Enclosure

Custom cabinets designed with Weddle Gilmore conceal the less pretty parts of cooking—and display the good, like a robust wine collection.

The custom table acts as both island and dining table; the cabinetry below is set on wheels so it can be removed for larger parties. **Stools:**

Lepere. Faucet: Dornbracht.
Curtains: Ralph Lauren Home.

Gather Around

A chef and his husband live around an open concept with a perfect view. *By Hadley Keller*

Interior Designer MARK CUNNINGHAM / Photographer DANA MEILIJSON / Producer ROBERT RUFINO

NEW YORK CITY ISN'T EXACTLY known for its generous kitchen space, but a professional chef's needs go beyond the gloomy galley setups many urbanites are accustomed to at home. When one such culinary master and his husband called up designer Mark Cunningham for help with their duplex home in the West Village, he dreamed up a spin on the open-concept kitchen and living room.

You won't find a sprawling white marble island or bare shelving here: With the space's industrial bones, "the biggest thing was trying to bring warmth," explains the designer, who worked with Michael Gilmore of Weddle Gilmore on the gut renovation.

First, Cunningham swathed the room in oak paneling. "It adds a sense of continuity, and when you're sitting in the living room, you're not staring at a refrigerator," he says. While black granite countertops and black oak flooring keep the space grounded, he brought softness with more wood on the ceiling and a matching casing around the windows, which are flanked by plush wool curtains.

"The focal point" of the project, Cunningham says, is the stove, with its towering hood of blackened steel. A strip of white between the oak cabinetry and the coffered ceiling "brings a lightness" to the space—plus, says the designer, "I love how the hood breaks it."

A seating area across from the island/table makes hosting a joy. "They love having everyone around," Cunningham says, and even when it's just the two of them, "they're always at this table."

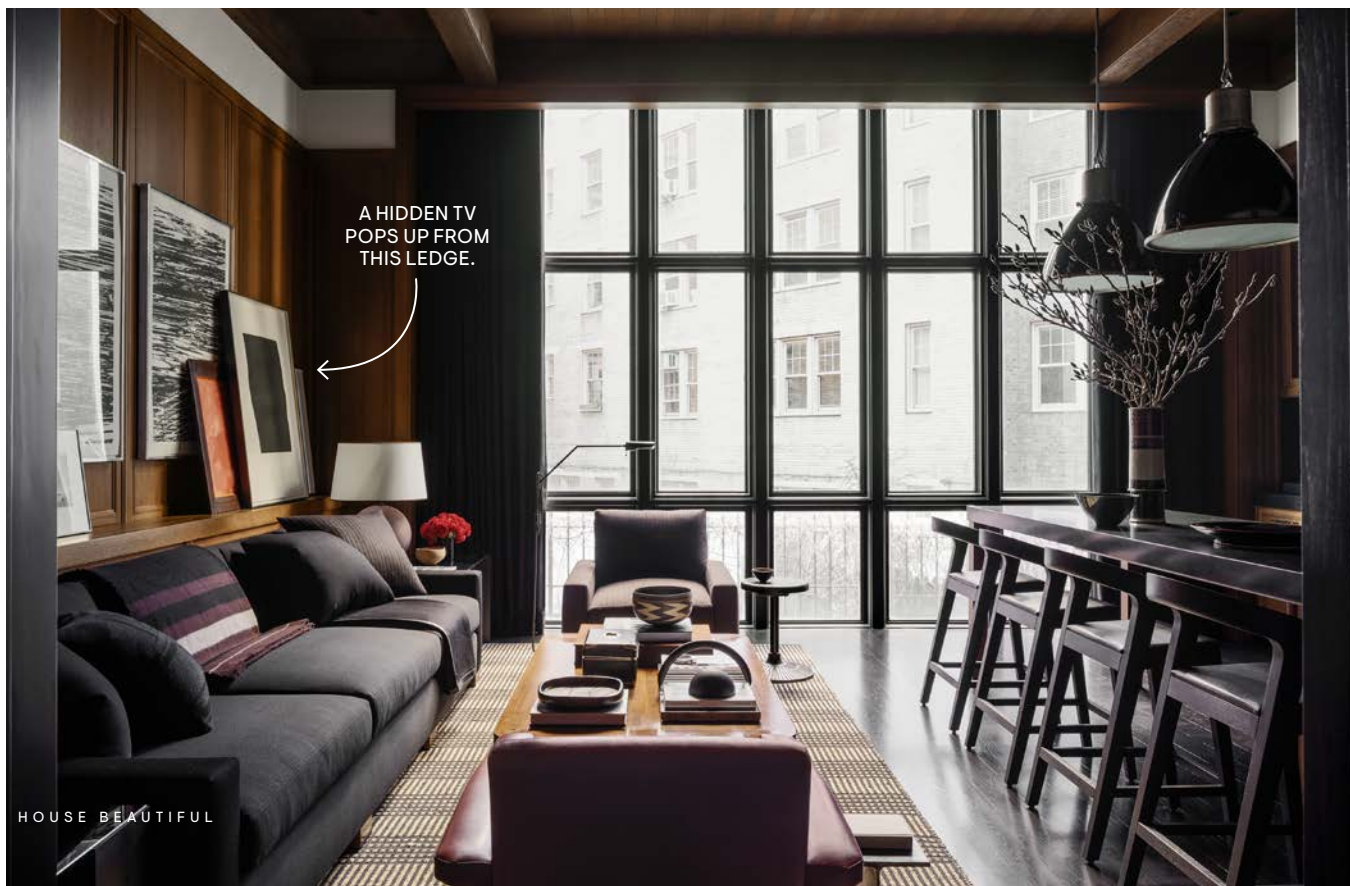


Back-of-House Prep Area

Behind a jib door built into the cabinetry, Cunningham designed a hyperfunctional butler's pantry, which contains a coffee station, a second dishwasher, and a pull-down stool to access ceiling-height storage. The space allows the homeowners to keep the main island clear while hosting.

Nearby Lounge

To counter the potential coldness of a wall of windows, Cunningham outfitted the living area in rich textures, like wool on the sofa and leather on the chairs. The sofa and brown chair are his custom designs; the red vintage Trelax chair is by Pierre Guariche. The lithographs are by Ellsworth Kelly. **Pillows:** [ALT for Living](#). **Coffee table:** [Atelier Démiurge](#). **Side table:** [Wyeth](#). **Rug:** [Sacco](#).



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PSA:
Most stools
come in bar
or counter
height, so check
before you
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Handwoven cane and hand-cast brass details give an artisanal feel. **Edward Counter Stool**, \$941. [bungalow5.com](#).



Slim lines and an open-weave pattern make this ideal for smaller spaces. **Milan Counter Stool**, \$1,266. [interludehome.com](#).



Choose from more than 25 fabrics to match to your space. **Angelo Counter Stool**, with a brass or black leg, \$349. [roveconcepts.com](#).



Impeccably tailored in any material you choose. **Lapel Barstool**, available in bar height, for trade only. [bakerfurniture.com](#).

A classic throwback to diner-style seating. **Octane Counter Stool**, available in 11 colors and in bar height, \$235. [industrywest.com](#).



Natural grass fibers pair perfectly with stone and quartz countertops. **Boca Counter Stool**, \$1,830. [centuryfurniture.com](#).



The iconic director's chair gets elevated with teak wood, sturdy canvas, and brass finishes. **Landry Counter Stool**, \$950. [madegoods.com](#).

