

DREAM Kitchens

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Elegance
34 Exquisite
Looks

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Perfect Balance

Sometimes modern spaces can be so streamlined that we're afraid to mess them up with the normal activities of everyday living. But this contemporary kitchen presents a sleek front while acting as the command center for a busy household—gracefully showing how a minimalist space can also be warm and welcoming.

In keeping with the rest of the Frank Lloyd Wright-inspired Michigan home, the kitchen features simple forms and a lack of ornamentation. Flat-front cabinet doors set the modern, minimalist tone, while honed black absolute granite countertops offer a complementary accent. Stainless steel on the appliances and backsplash adds to the cutting-edge feel, but its drama is muted by the cabinetry's dark wood tone. The rich java hue brings a nature-inspired look that grounds the cooking space and adds warmth to keep the kitchen from feeling too cold and stark.

Functionally, the kitchen features an efficient layout that easily accommodates the needs of a busy family. A compact work triangle minimizes steps, while barstools offer comfortable perches where the kids can do homework or chat with the cook. A prep sink in the island and a pot-filler faucet above the cooktop provide additional convenience, while an adjoining light-filled breakfast area is ideal for casual family dinners. **DK**

Java-stained rift-cut oak cabinets add a welcoming warmth to the kitchen's contemporary design, while clerestory windows admit light and preserve privacy.

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