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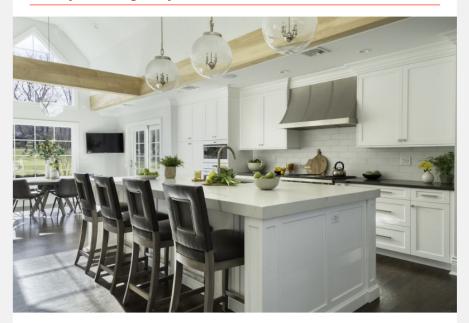






White kitchens — homeowners love them while some designers have grown tired of them and are ready to move on. That said, they are still wildly popular just about everywhere. There are lots of reasons why white kitchens have endured and will continue to be popular — from their design versatility and marketability to their association with cleanliness. We found a stunning collection of examples designed by Showcase Kitchens of Long Island in Manhasset and Massapequa. All are white, beautiful and far from boring.

#### **Totally Contemporary**



White kitchens are all the rage now and have been for some time. Of course, they were super popular in the 1990s and then fell out of favor for a while before their current heydey. What makes them so enduring and popular? We asked John Starck, owner of Showcase Kitchens. "The not-so-recent trending of transitional design, after the popularity of the more ornate traditional design, offers a sophisticated and chic alternative to a primarily wood-based kitchen. White kitchens give a sense of spaciousness as well as being a perfect palette for decorative augmentation, which homeowners seem to enjoy," Starck says.

This particular combines a number of **contemporary elements** into a one-of-a-kind design, from the natural wood beams to the **dark-colored countertop** along the wall. The soaring ceiling sets off the globe pendants and the velvet upholstery on the bar seats adds a touch of softness. It's a great example of how to meld different materials to spice up a white kitchen.

#### Elegant with a Touch of Glam



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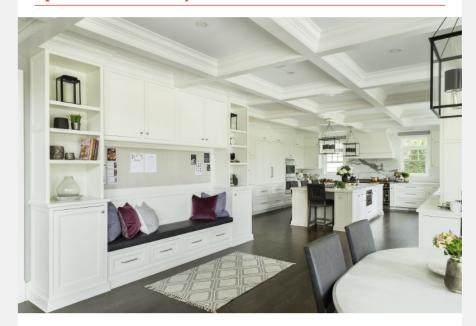
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Transitional kitchen designs with clean lines and a fresh vibe are ideal for using a white color palette. These are the types of decorating styles that themselves more naturally to an all-white kitchen, Says Starck. This white kitchen is a bit glamorous thanks to the pendants above the island and the chandelier over the table. The feeling is emphasized by other elements, such as the elegant **accents on the cabinet glass**. The way the quilting on the bar chairs picks up on the pattern of the backsplash. The dark wood floor and chair legs add depth and warmth to the space.

# **Updated Traditional Style**



With farmhouse, industrial and modern style trending, many homeowners prefer a more classic traditional look. That said, today's traditional kitchen designs are not your mother traditional kitchen style. This kitchen has plenty of traditional elements from the coffered ceiling to the moldings and overall classic look, but it still has lots of fresh flair. The dramatic and rich looking marble backsplash behind the cooktop and the updated classic lighting fixtures are just a couple. These homeowners extended their white kitchen style into the dining area where there is a handy and comfortable bench as well as plenty of closed storage.

#### **Neutral and Natural**





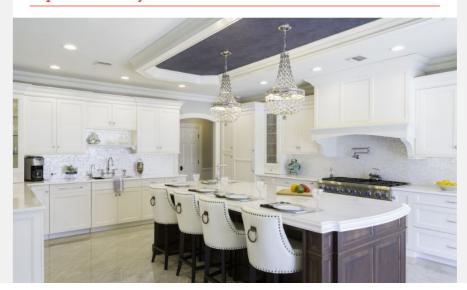
Even among people who love a mainly white **palette in the kitchen**, not everyone wants absolutely everything to be white. When spicing up white kitchens, certain elements will provide more bang for your buck, says Starck. "When it's a white kitchen, it's easy to introduce contrast. Usually, center islands or backsplashes behind the range are a great place to highlight the clean look of white and can act as a focal point as well," he explains. This **particular kitchen has a large island** whose base is a different color. This type of contrast is a bit softer because the color of the wood is more muted, which fits with the more laid-back, natural style of this home.

# **Super Family Friendly**



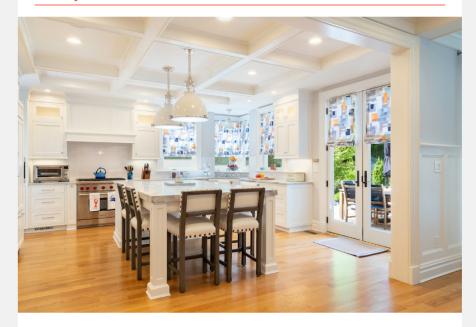
Unlike white **carpeting and upholstery**, white kitchens are totally family-friendly. In fact, their clean look makes it easier to spot areas that need cleaning. Here, the kitchen incorporates a bench seat on one side, which eliminates the need for a much larger table that can accommodate family with more children. The separate table is also easily replaced, as the family grows and changes. The set-up is also perfect for children to homework or other activities while meals are being prepared and still be close to mom or dad.

# **Sophisticated Style**



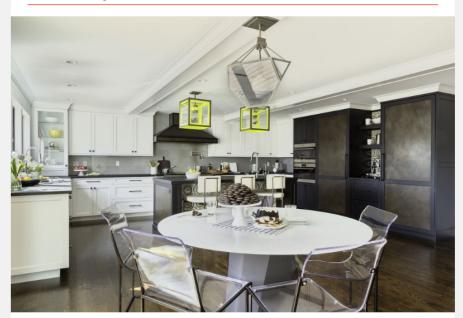
At the other end of the formality spectrum, white kitchens can be quite sophisticated as this one is. While the **basic cabinetry** is similar to other kitchens, the difference emerges in the detail that are included. Stylish **sink hardware**, an elegant tray ceiling and dual chandeliers take it to the next level of refinement. Additions such as the chairs help determine the vibe, and these upholstered stools with studs and hardware add a lot of style.

# **Cheery and Eclectic**



Starck says **that a limited budget** need not define how great the kitchen looks. "Appliance choices can help set the tone of a kitchen. Many appliance brands have a high-performance, luxury aesthetic with a more modest price point. This would be a great way to maintain a high-end look while watching the budget," he says. This particular kitchen upgraded its stove with a high-end brand that elevates the entire design. Together with the updated lighting fixtures, the entire space has a luxe but casual vibe.

#### **Marvelously Modern**



In a demonstration of how a white kitchen is always a good idea, this design is modern and a little eclectic. "There is no occasion where a white kitchen will not work unless the client prefers something different. Ultimately, taste is very personal, which includes color preference." This kitchen has a white background blended with some dark wood on the island and wall unit. The lighting is

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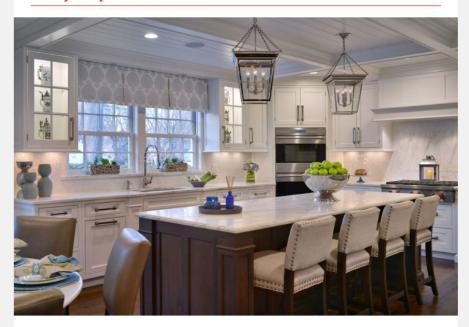
A Focus on Accents

#### An Old-School Feel



An all-white is the perfect backdrop for a more old-school kitchen like this one. Elegant crown moldings and a curved cornice above the cooktop are ideal highlights for a more traditional design. Note the **gorgeous marble countertops**, especially on the island which is a different color. The serene palette is punctuated not just by the island top but by the **industrial light fixtures** above the island and the sink.

# **Today's Style of Transitional**



Plenty of people aren't really ready to commit to a **more modern kitchen** but they still want a space that feels fresh and up-to-date, so transitional design is a perfect compromise. This space combines traditional elements with fresher parts like the updated lighting, **bar stools and materials** used for the **backsplash** and countertops.

## **Casual Serenity**



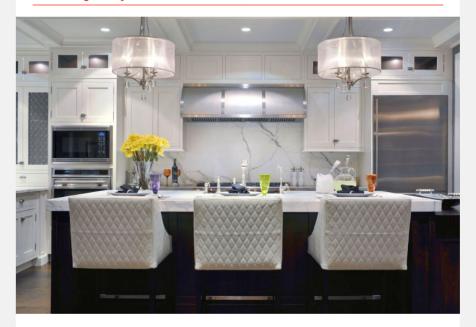






White kitchens lend themselves to creating a more serene space. This kitchen combines **white and gray elements** and the result is stunning yet with a **very Zen feeling**. In addition to the tile backsplash, the gray barstools and dining chairs add contrast without introducing a more vibrant or contrasting color.

# **Contemporary With Some Shine**



White kitchens have been popular on and off for quite some time, certain elements can make them feel dated. "Shaker door styles tend to be overdone," Starck says. We've been doing more crafted doors by adding detail to the door profile. We're increasingly adding more metal into projects in trims, door profiles and molding.

#### A Focus on Accents





Of course, there are those people who think that all-white equals boring. "There are probably unlimited ways of adding visual interest," Starck says. "For example, by introducing metal into the door style. Homeowners can be creative with lighting, hardware, flooring and other decorative elements that personalize a white space," he adds.

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## About the author



# Vera Dordick

Vera Dordick is a global communicator, and creative provocateur. She holds degrees in Journalism/Russian and Pastry and has had a life-long affair with creativity. Her dabbling focuses on interior design, including DIY, jewelry, cakes, sugar flowers, and fiber arts of all kinds.

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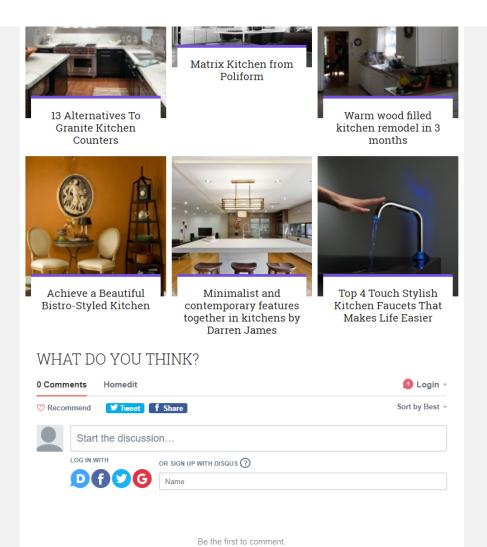
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