

# BUILD YOUR Dream Kitchen

## KITCHENS 2017

BY ANDREA TIMPANO

Teeming with bespoke cabinetry, clever storage solutions, and the finest finishes, five local projects provide plenty of big ideas for your next renovation. ▶



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THE LIGHT SAVER

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THE NEW CLASSIC

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THE ADDITION  
KITCHEN

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THE DYNAMIC REDO

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THE MODERN  
MINIMALIST

**LOCATION**

CAMBRIDGE

**SIZE**

260 SQUARE FEET

# Turn up the bright

If the kitchen is where you spend the most time, it should be the most inviting room in the house. That's the logic, anyway, behind this Cambridge renovation in historical Avon Hill. The owners used the kitchen nightly for whipping up family meals but struggled with its outmoded appearance and lack of storage space. "It was so clearly not the light, bright space they wanted," says interior designer Dee Elms, principal of the eponymous Boston firm.

With help from the builders at South End-based Sleeping Dog Properties, Elms kicked off the redesign by removing the restrictive drop ceiling along one kitchen wall, providing some much-needed airiness and room enough for a full-height china cabinet. To play up the sunlight filtered through the original transom windows, Elms replaced the existing wood cabinetry with brighter, custom Shaker-style models. She also installed a pocket door, outfitted with light-bouncing frosted glass, to partition the main cooking space from the existing pantry. And though it would eliminate a natural light source, Elms strategically closed up one of the original transoms, choosing to repurpose the opening for a subtle Miele stove hood, accented by a glossy backsplash.



**THE FACT FILE**

**CONTRACTOR** Sleeping Dog Properties  
**INTERIOR DESIGNER** Elms Interior Design  
**APPLIANCES** Sub-Zero refrigerator, Thermador rangetop, Viking oven, all

Yale Appliance + Lighting  
**BACKSPLASH** "Stretch Hex" glass tile, DiscoverTile  
**CABINETY** Custom, Michael Humphries Woodworking

**CABINETY PAINT** "Trout Gray" and "Cloud White," both Benjamin Moore  
**COUNTERTOP** "Frost White" quartz, Marble and Granite

**ISLAND TOP** "Bianco Venatino" marble, Marble and Granite

**PHOTOGRAPHS BY** MICHAEL J. LEE  
 For details and retail locations, see "Resources."



▲ Cedar & Moss glass pendants and BassamFellows walnut barstools complement the marble-topped island, used for meal prep and casual dining.

