

HOME & STYLE

These 5 Stunning Kitchens Prove Brass Works With Every Style

It was passé, then it was trendy, now it's everywhere—with good reason.

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Brass + Olive



The lower cabinets are painted "Garden Gate" by Sherwin Williams. Photo by Jennifer Hughes.



The architect homeowners designed the island to resemble a piece of furniture. Photo by Brandon Webster.

On first glance, this kitchen in American University Park appears effortlessly modern and simple. But look closer and you'll notice subtle complexities: upper cabinet doors that are framed, lowers that are not; painted-wood knobs on the island, brass pulls on the perimeter; the way that only the marble on the island turns down. "I don't love matching," explains homeowner Catherine Fowlkes. Her husband, V.W. Fowlkes, echoes: "It's controlled eclecticism."

Both architects—they helm the firm Fowlkes Studio—they say renovating their own house was refreshingly low-pressure. Plus, it allowed them to try things their clients aren't willing to. "We suggest it all the time, but this is the first olive-green kitchen we've done," says Catherine, referring to the lower cabinets, painted "Garden Gate" by Sherwin Williams. The brass hardware—Anthropologie's "Streamline"—has a distressed finish. A vintage runner and an old bread board serving as a backsplash for the range add to the space's lived-in vibe. As V.W. puts it: "Catherine is, like, allergic to fussiness."