

WHETHER SERVING AS A MAKESHIFT CLASSROOM FOR KIDS OR A WORK HUB FOR GROWNUPS, IT'S CLEAR THAT TODAY'S KITCHEN HAS BECOME MUCH MORE THAN JUST A PLACE TO PREPARE FOOD. AS THE HEART OF THE HOME, MODERN KITCHENS HAVE BECOME MALLEABLE SPACES AND ENDLESSLY CREATIVE PLATFORMS FOR INTERIOR DESIGNERS. TO IGNITE OUR OWN INSPIRATION, WE SPOKE WITH THREE OF OUR FAVORITE CARIBBEAN-AMERICAN DESIGNERS ABOUT THEIR MOST IMAGINATIVE KITCHEN PROJECTS.

WRITER MONIQUE MCINTOSH **PHOTOGRAPHY** VARIOUS



PHOTOS ISLAND HOME INTERIORS



◀ Installing a large statement island, which the designer adorned in a bright blue to punctuate the fresh white palette, became key in corralling movement throughout the space. "Everything happens at the island, from food prep, to baking, to kids' homework," explains Ebanks about the island's central role in the kitchen. "Now it serves as the true hub for friends and family."

▶ To achieve this modern look, fresh white cabinets in a streamlined Shaker style provided a slim profile, as well as plenty of enclosed storage. This was paired with a quartz countertop and backsplash that continued up the wall—a detail that's as stylish as it is practical. "They did not want the standard tile backsplash with grout that's hard to clean, especially over the cooktop area," notes the designer. "So they loved this option, which adds a level of sophistication and simplicity."

