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MAGAZINE

The Remodeling and Decorating Resource

Great Kitchen Makeover Ideas

WINNING
KITCHEN
DESIGN!
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31 Easy Color Fixes
For Your Kitchen
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OCTOBER 2003
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going home...



Brown keeps her life up-to-date with a wall-long blackboard in the kitchen of her New York City loft.

Inset left Some 30 running feet of concrete counter space with open storage below allows ample room for cooking up a storm. **Inset below** Abundant flowers and artwork are central to the home's creative comforts.

with Katie Brown

The free-spirited cook, designer, and host of the new home show, *All Year Round*, serves up her all-American sense of style

HOME People use words like “homespun,” “homey,” “practical,” and “down-to-earth” to describe you. Do you think these terms apply to you?

KB I don't know that I would use the term “homespun;” maybe “inventive” is more like it. Everything I try to do is affordable, fairly quick, and fun. My projects are whimsical, but they're definitely achievable.

HOME Part of your appeal seems to be that you're so American. You tell people they don't have to be something they're not, that they can draw on their own personal influences, just as you do in your books.

KB I like that. I think the trend was happening before September 11. But after that terrible day, people began nesting more. There's a wide-open search for that now.

HOME In your book, *Katie Brown Decorates*, you mention your mother a lot. Is she a big influence?

KB I do everything that my mom does, only I happen to make a living at it. I make fun of it, but I really did learn from her. I got my love of nesting from her. She used to say: “If you're not in love with your house anymore, you

should move.” When we were eleven, we all got to decorate our own rooms and pick the color we loved most.

HOME Is that when you discovered your love of yellow? In your book, you really seem to like yellow.

KB Growing up, I had such a thing for yellow. In my room, everything had to be yellow. I had yellow wallpaper and shag rugs—remember those? I still love it, but now my love of yellow has morphed into orange.

HOME So you've gone brighter!

KB I know. You would think: How much brighter could you get than yellow? Now I have everything orange, even my logo. I really like bright. I'm so brave with color. I tell myself I should tone down a bit, but I just love bright.

HOME I think people really like light colors—they seem hopeful, and they make you feel more confident.

KB Because I grew up in the Midwest, I was used to very long winters. Bright carpets and bright ceilings really helped me get through those long cold months.

For more information about Katie Brown and her new show, *All Year Round*, on A&E, log on to aetv.com.