

# Move about in comfort in a circle kitchen

Psychologists have long known that the circle is a pleasing and comfortable shape to humans. That's just the effect that Carole Eichen had in mind when she designed a kitchen with a circular look achieved with curved cabinets.

The small 12-by-13-foot kitchen provides unexpected storage space and countertop area combined with a functional work triangle. A three-door, pullout pantry with curved front is designed to organize and hold food items from small spice jars and catsup bottles to family-size cereal boxes, canisters and bowls.

"This semicircular design is extremely versatile," Eichen said, "and would work beautifully in combination with a dining or family room." Even for those who wish to remodel, this design offers the opportunity of opening up a small kitchen area to combine it with another room, multiplying the visual spaciousness and usefulness of both areas.

"Lifestyle trends are moving away from little box rooms with only one specific purpose. People want open, free-flowing interiors in which they can feel comfortable no matter what the activity."

Starting at the right-hand side of the kitchen is the pantry area — three different-sized, curved pantry units pull out for easy storing of a variety of foods. Each pantry unit is

faced with different Formica colors — the largest unit is Indian smoke, a soft brown, the middle unit in adobe, a peach tone, and the smallest unit in rose ash, a subtle rosey tone.

Next to the pantry is the refrigerator in toast. Moving around the semi-circle is the dishwasher, stainless steel double sink and set-in range with eye-level microwave oven. Completing the semi-circle is an expanse of countertop area with plenty of cupboards, plus a trash compactor, ending with a circular cabinet that is large enough to house even the bulk-iest of kitchen utensils. Above this curved sweep of countertop are upper cabinets opening into the kitchen area, while the other side faces the family or dining room and has shelves for book storage, a 16-bottle wine rack and a glassware storage area. Recessed knee space allows snackbar dining at the curved countertop.

Highlighting the ceiling in the center of the kitchen is a round skylight surrounded by recessed lights. The flooring in a soft shrimp color ties the elements together.

"Design is one of the more important statements that people can make about themselves," Eichen said. "No matter how glamorous or how utilitarian, every interior setting has a personality and reflects the lifestyles of a family."



This circular kitchen provides an unexpected bonus of storage space and countertop areas combined with an efficient work triangle in a 12-by-13 space. According to the designer, Carole Eichen of California, the kitchen would work beautifully in combination with a dining or family room. "Even for those who wish to remodel, this design offers the opportunity of opening up a small kitchen to combine it with another room, thereby multiplying the visual spaciousness and total usefulness of both areas. Lifestyle trends are moving away from little box rooms with only one specific purpose. People now want open, free-flowing interiors in which they can feel comfortable, no matter what the activity."



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