

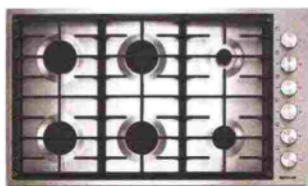
modern world products

Flatlining

We've noticed a curious trend of disappearing appliances, planar sinks, and subdued surfaces. Just like the flat design that is becoming popular in technology interfaces, this kitchen is excess-free and pared back to the essentials.



1



5



3



2



4

1 Modex by Blanco, \$1,750
Rising only three inches above the countertop, the Red Dot Award-winning Modex features an integrated drainboard. The engineered material, which is 80 percent granite, is scratch- and stain-resistant. blancoamerica.com

2 Drawer Microwave by Wolf, \$1,825 Available in 24- and 30-inch sizes, the microwave has ten power levels and its spacious drawer can accommodate nine-by-13-inch casseroles. subzero-wolf.com

3 800 Plus Series Dishwasher by Bosch, \$1,299
A recessed handle helps the stainless-steel appliance maintain a low profile, while three internal racks offer more cleaning capacity. At 42 decibels when running, the 800 series is also among the quietest dishwashers around. bosch-home.com

4 Signature Series 24-Inch Dual-Zone Wine Reserve by Perlick, \$3,399–\$3,749
The Milwaukee-made stainless-steel chiller features two separate temperature zones and can hold 46 bottles of wine. It's approved for indoor or outdoor use and fits beneath most counters. bringperlickhome.com

5 Six-burner Cooktop by Jenn-Air, \$1,499 With its very low profile, the gas cooktop all but blends in with counters. It features high-heat burners that reach 18,000 BTUs and a simmer burner that goes as low as 800 BTUs. jennair.com >

Social Club

Fashion brand Diesel banded together with Italian kitchen systems manufacturer Scavolini to create the Social Kitchen—a modular set of cabinets, islands, carts, and shelving in various sizes and heights that offers myriad ways to customize a space (left). Scavolini has long been known for a polished, minimal aesthetic, but the Social Kitchen has a more vintage,

time-worn sensibility, from its matte-wood finishes and rusticated metal hardware to freestanding pieces that look plucked from a machine shop. Recognizing that kitchens are now hubs of activity in the home, Scavolini and Diesel designed the room to foster togetherness; islands or peninsulas are stationed in the center of the room with storage and appliances relegated to the walls. scavolini.us



Seeking an escape from bustling city life, a Manhattan couple embarks on a renovation in the verdant Hudson Valley.

Steven and Tata Citron stand in the kitchen of their renovated 2,300-square-foot midcentury abode in Newburgh, a town located 60 miles north of New York City. Architect Jeff Jordan opened up the house's interior, added extensive glazing, and recast surfaces to enhance the connection to the outdoors and create a clean, unencumbered living space.





The kitchen was formerly closed off (near left) and now flows into the living room post renovation (below). Jordan removed built-in shelving behind the stone fireplace and installed a Cor-Ten steel panel in its place (far left). Vitra manufactures the Jean Prouvé-designed Standard dining table and side chairs.



“The house had an interesting and straightforward quality to it that we wanted to honor. The renovation was very ‘surgical’—we leveraged small gestures to yield big results.”
—Architect Jeff Jordan

Steven and Tata Citron wanted a weekend retreat. Unlike many New Yorkers, the couple was happily ensconced on the 35th floor of an Upper East Side Manhattan high-rise and rarely left town for end-of-the-week getaways. But years of 12-hour workdays at the business the Citrons own and run began to take a toll, so the pair decided to find their “great escape” from the fast-paced and high-stress urban environment. They took to the Internet, searching for appealing houses within easy driving distance. A midcentury dwelling in Newburgh, New York, a town in the Hudson Valley, about 60 miles north of the city, captured their attention.

The cedar-and-vinyl-clad house, built in 1954, had charm to spare and a postcard-worthy setting in the

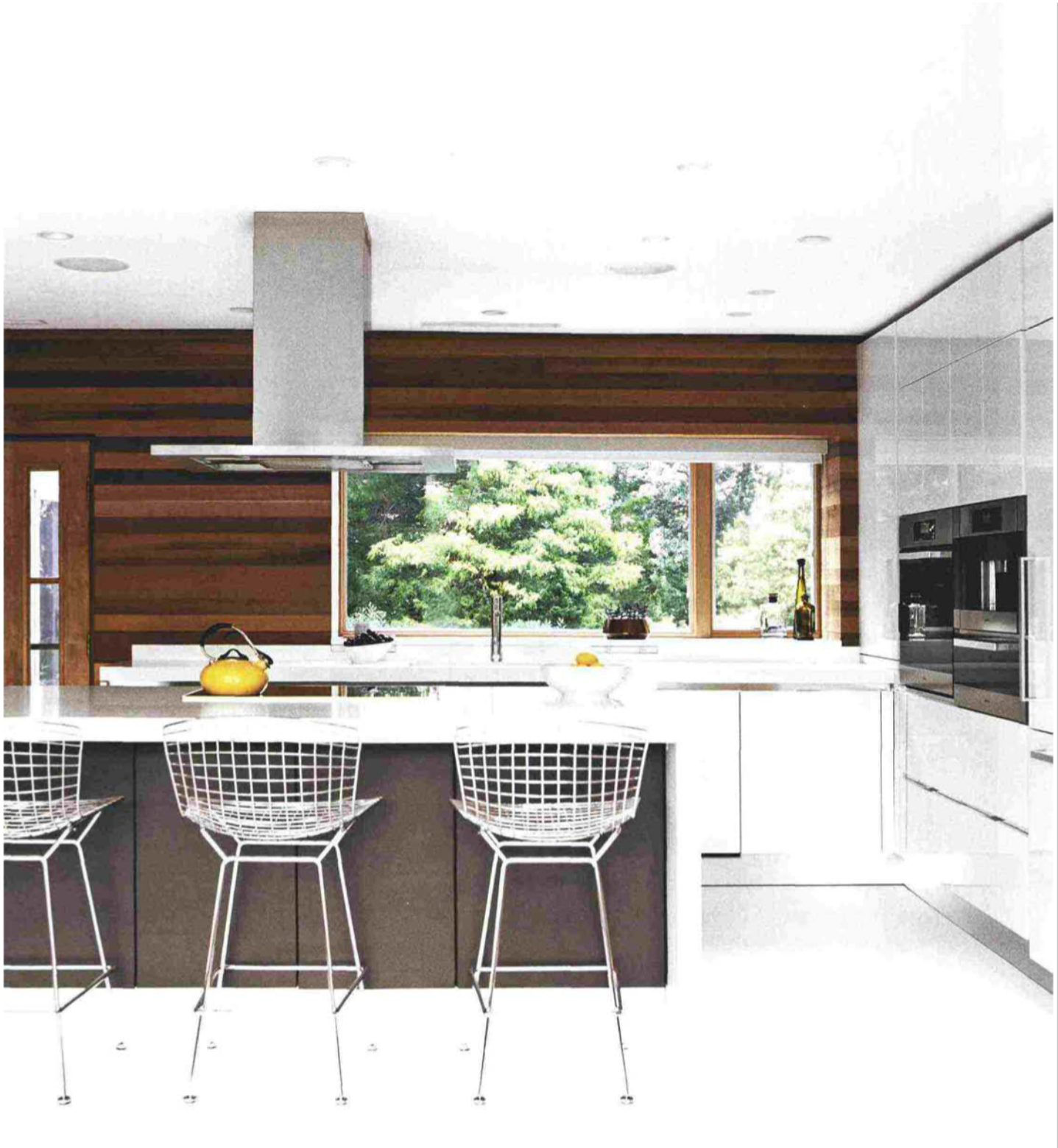
lush countryside. “We knew it was right,” says Steven. Best of all, it was in move-in condition. The previous owners, of which there had only been three, had taken good care of it.

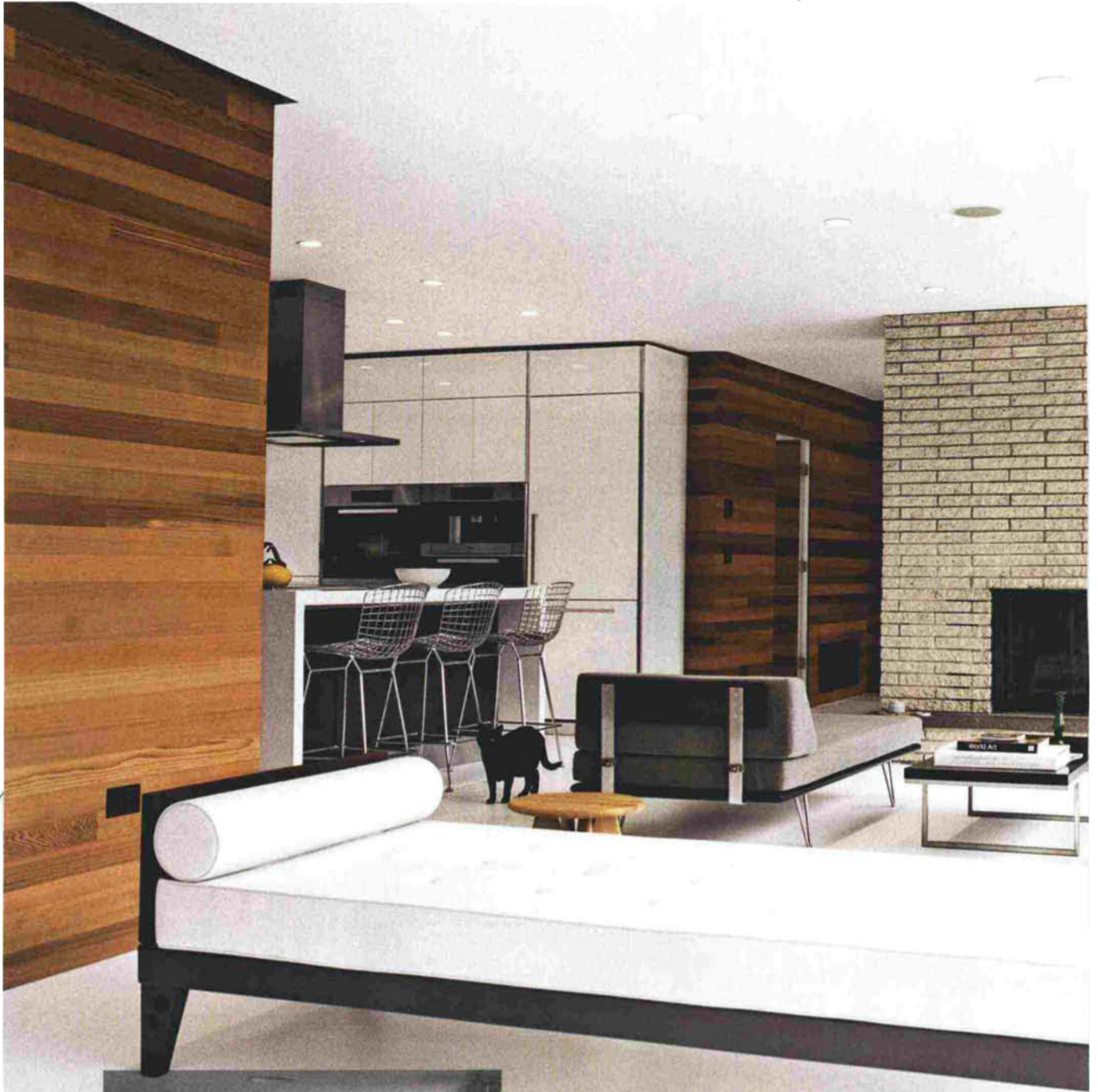
But once they moved in, the Citrons decided to make some changes, especially to the living area and kitchen. The long, cedar-covered galley kitchen was too narrow and dark for the couple, who both like to cook. And the living area, while true to its midcentury modern roots, felt dated, with its brick wall, stone fireplace, dark wood floors, and smallish windows. “It had an old motel feel,” says Jeff Jordan, the couple’s architect.

Just as they had shopped online for the house, so did they search for design help, interviewing three or four architects before choosing Jordan, whose deft use of >

Bertoia bar stools by Knoll are tucked under the island in the Scavolini Scenery kitchen (opposite). The cooktop and oven are Miele, the countertop is Caesarstone, and the refrigerator is Liebherr. Jordan replaced the original wood flooring with white resin, a robust surface used in high-traffic environments.

DWELL





Jordan put the living room on a diet, so to speak, reducing surfaces to open the space. He removed three feet of the existing stone fireplace surround (left) and peeled back the ceiling to reveal steel structural beams, painted a red color matched to their original hue (above).

The Citrons inherited the Modernica sofa, chaise, and table from the previous owners. They added a Prouvé daybed and Jasper Morrison cork stools, all by Vitra (above). The cedar interior walls were inspired by the exterior cladding and are finished in orange oil beeswax by Howard.



Hillcrest House Floor Plan

- A Bedroom
- B Dining Room
- C Living Room
- D Kitchen
- E Laundry Room
- F Master Bedroom
- G Master Closet
- H Master Bathroom
- I Garage
- J Bathroom

wood cladding on a Michigan home appealed to them. He also made the couple feel comfortable with his low-key approach. Unlike the other architects they interviewed, Jordan proposed no grand schemes. "The house was in good shape," he says. "Most people would have gone on with their lives. There was no need for a major intervention."

Over the years, there had been three separate additions to the home: two large wings—one in front and one in back—each housing spacious bedrooms and en suite baths, as well as a garage. It was a dwelling that just grew, haphazardly, to its current 2,300 square feet. The Citrons decided to focus only on the living and dining areas, for now, but plan to renovate the other spaces in the near future.

The two were active participants in the design process. "They were very easy to work with," says Jordan. "They understood everything and were very receptive." The Citrons had found their dream kitchen and had bought it even before hiring an architect. One day, while strolling around SoHo, they discovered Scavolini—an upscale Italian manufacturer of cutting-edge kitchen systems—and fell in love with the company's Scenery units, which have a high-gloss, white-lacquer finish.

To install their prize, the wall that separated the kitchen from the living room would have to be torn down, a step the couple had happily anticipated. With Jordan's help, they were also able to enlarge the kitchen window and rebuild the laundry room. To open up the rear of the house and get an unobstructed view of the countryside—and, in the winter, views of the Hudson River—Jordan found he had to have most of the rear wall of the house demolished: It was stripped down to three steel posts.

Renovation work can sometimes be like an archaeological dig, with all kinds of surprises surfacing, from leaky pipes to faulty wiring. But this time, the discovery was a happy one. When workers removed the living room ceiling, they discovered a beautiful rafter of rusted steel beams. At first, everyone wanted to leave them exposed, but because they needed a way to conceal ductwork and wiring, they settled on a dropped ceiling. Jordan left a small portion of the beams—painted a bold crimson, an homage to the originals—exposed along the open span of the window >

The house's footprint stayed the same (right). "Keeping most of the existing house was the biggest 'green' thing we did," says Jordan. Instead of recalibrating the plan, he focused on introducing daylight, adding insulation, and replacing windows to maximize views.





On the house's south side, Jordan excised the covered porch (above). He added floor-to-ceiling windows by Andersen (left), which allow low winter sunlight to warm the interior in colder months. The previous residents sheathed the exterior in cedar (below), which the Citrons loved and decided to keep.



wall. As a result of the rear wall's demolition, the stone fireplace, which had been attached to it, is now free-standing. The back side of the fireplace faces the dining area; a Cor-Ten steel plate covers the bricks.

For illumination, Jordan had LED rope lighting installed around the ceiling's coved perimeter, supplying a warm, even light throughout the rooms. The Citrons had their hearts set on a white resin floor, which, combined with the all-white kitchen, adds megawatts of brightness to the space. Inspired by the house's cedar cladding, Jordan chose horizontal cedar planks to cover the interior walls, creating a dramatic and warm contrast to the floor.

The Citrons selected all the furnishings, from Ligne Roset's Ploum sofa by Ronan and Erwan Bouroullec

to reissued pieces by Jean Prouvé from Vitra, including a dining table and chairs. Happily, they also inherited some furniture from the previous owners, including a Case Study sofa, coffee table, and chaise from Modernica that still enjoy their place of honor in front of the fireplace.

"Living a Manhattan lifestyle is very special, and we would never trade it in for a minute, but the only way for us to truly recharge is getting up to our home on the weekends," says Steven. "We take so much pleasure in doing the simplest things there, like just watching the birds fly in the backyard."

"It's now a serene and pure space," says Jordan of the house post renovation. "It's almost like a museum. And that's what they wanted." □

Steven and Tata relax in their living room (right). "The house has always been deemed the 'great escape,'" says Steven. "It's a very special place for us." The Superheroes stool and table are by Swedish designers Glimpt Studio for Cappellini, the blush-colored rug is from ABC Carpet & Home, and the Pan Pan rabbit figurine is by Ligne Roset.