

Where Kids Applied to College | 6 Beautiful Kitchens

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## College Crunch

The pressure to get into a top school is all-consuming. What's it doing to our kids?



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# *spins on a* **CLASSIC**

*It seems like everyone wants a white kitchen these days. We found six local homes that offer beautiful examples of how to do it.*

BY NIGEL F. MAYNARD

## ▶ **WHITE** *this time*

### **WHEN MELISSA BLUME**

and Scott Levine renovated the kitchen in their 1935 row home in D.C.'s Glover Park in 2005, they had regrets. To fit in with the colonial-style home, they chose dark cherry cabinets, black granite countertops and dark oak floors.

"I thought back and wondered, 'Why didn't I do a white kitchen?'" says Blume. When it was time to renovate the kitchen in the Chevy Chase home the couple bought in 2008, they weren't about to make the same mistake.

Their new kitchen, by designer Sarah Kahn Turner, features white cabinets and an island painted in Sherwin-Williams "web gray." According to Turner, who designed the kitchen while working at Gilday

Renovations in Silver Spring, "A different-colored island is the primary way to break up the white."

The couple removed the upper cabinets and added two windows, which shower the space in natural light. To make up for the lost storage, they added a walk-in pantry. "Now there is so much more cabinet space in this kitchen because of the way everything was designed," Blume says.

A backsplash made from beveled-edge white subway tiles and gray grout gives the kitchen an industrial flair. The light fixtures, which have metal braces in an "X" shape and visible rivets, extend the industrial theme. And bar stools from Ethan Allen with the same "X-shape" design pull everything together.



home



## POTOMAC *modern*

### THE KITCHEN IN THIS

contemporary Potomac house had been renovated piecemeal over 20 years with builder-grade cabinets, standard granite countertops and stainless steel appliances. “It was functional, but not particularly interesting or welcoming,” the homeowner says.

Bethesda-based Carnemark was called in to help create a bright, functional space with unique materials—from polished glass countertops and glass tiles on the floor to two types of cabinets: matte glass and polished lacquer.

To break up the white, the owners chose a mocha lacquer finish for the island and added black countertops made from a paper-based surface called Richlite.

“Doing just the black top and a white island and white floors

would have been too much contrast,” company owner Jonas Carnemark says, adding that using organic materials is one way

to tone down the starkness of a modern kitchen. An angular and playful faucet from Kohler adds a touch of whimsy.



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