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Fantasy Islands

If the kitchen is the center of the home, the island is the epicenter. We love when designers supersize it **by Gina Bazer**

1 A drywalled structural column anchors the eight-foot-long L-shaped island that Bill Rodon-Hornof of **2RZ Architecture** created in this Lincoln Park condo. The quartz-topped longer portion, with cooktop, is a food-prep area; the lower glass-topped laminate table is a place to have a cup of coffee and read the paper. **2** **Drury Design's** Tina Muller outfitted the kitchen of this vacation home in rural Illinois with a 15-foot island that includes two warming drawers, a sink, a dishwasher, and many storage options; the polished granite surface extends into a seating area for up to six people. The light fixtures look like clusters of milk bottles, a chic reference to the farmland setting. **3** This Beverly kitchen designed by Barbara Ince and Sarah Davis of **Susan Fredman Design Group** has three quartzite-topped islands lined up below ceiling cutouts that mimic their shape and size. The far island is a high-top table that seats six; the center structure houses a sink and a dishwasher; the one in the foreground is a baking station. Having three islands instead of one big one allows for more flexible traffic flow in the large room. **4** The owner of this Lake View house told Brian Goldberg of **LG Development Group** and Fred Wilson of **Morgante-Wilson Architects** that she wanted a place where her children could do homework, help her cook, and work on projects. The 21-foot-long quartzite-topped walnut mega-island they delivered has a prep sink, two trash centers, pull-out refrigeration, and capacious storage, as well as a seating area. **5** Shawna Dillon of **Snaidero,** along with architect Pam Lamaster-Millett of **Searl Lamaster Howe,** oversaw the design of this kitchen in a Streeterville condo. Horizontal lines created by aluminum inlays in the charcoal-stained rift-cut oak cabinetry accentuate the generous length (15 feet) of the island. Its polished white quartz countertop echoes the reflective glass-front cupboards and tile over the cooktop. ■

PHOTOGRAPHY (2) ERIC HAUSMAN; (3) NICK NOVELLI, NOVELLI PHOTODESIGN; (4) TONY SOLURI PHOTOGRAPHY

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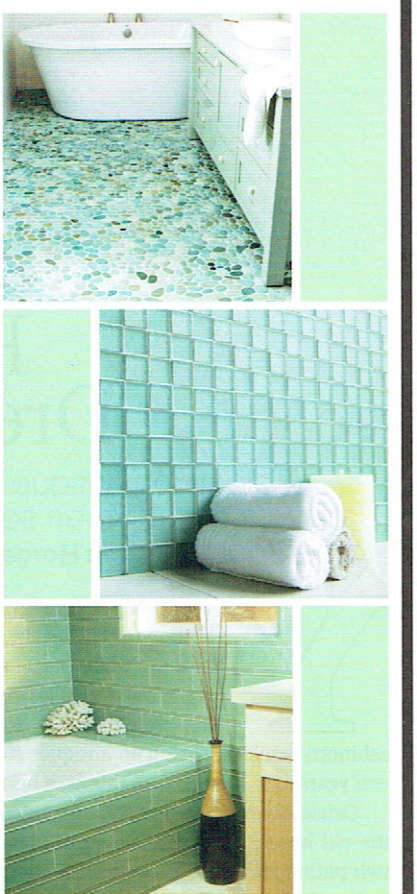

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