

OPENING

ACT

In a room often defined by cabinet doors and closed drawers, open shelves offer an alternative that opens your kitchens to high style, dynamic displays and up-front functionality.

BY BRAD MEE

1 Deep shelves appear to float on a backdrop of white Macabus quartzite in the kitchen of a chic Orem home. Easy to access, everyday tableware and glasses are joined by gold-toned accessories and framed art to create an eye-catching display in the light-filled room. Interior design by AMB Design; architecture by Lloyd Architects.

PHOTO BY SCOTT ZIMMERMAN

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PHOTOS BY SCOT ZIMMERMAN (2, 5), DAVID LIVINGSTON (3), ROCHELLE JAHHI (4)

2 Wood shelves mounted on black iron brackets add depth and character to the tiled wall of a farmhouse-styled kitchen in Midway. The shelves frame a wood-faced hood, reinforcing the key focal point while providing symmetry to the broad wall. The unpainted wood shelves visually link to similarly finished bin-style drawers below. Design by Caitlin Creer with homeowner Lee Ann Myers. Builder: Lane Myers Construction.

3 In the galley kitchen of a small Salt Lake City home, designer Anne-Marie Barton rejected a bulky “stand-out” hood above the range. Instead, she created an open frame of unlacquered brass that’s inset with glass shelves and hangs from the ceiling with hooks. The see-through feature lightens the compact room while making it look and feel roomy. “They make efficient use of the limited space in the small footprint of this gourmet kitchen,” she says. To foster a classic masculine vibe in the engaging

space, Barton displayed monogrammed glassware and gold-trimmed dishes on the shelves. Home builder: Jackson & Leroy.

4 To help make this loft’s kitchen feel open and bright, McKenzie Dickson with Denton House Design Studio mounted open shelves on a wall clad in brick-stacked ceramic tile. “Exposing a collection of the owners’ coffee mugs adds charm and gives the space character,” says Dickson, who wrapped the shelves in steel to link them visually to the ceiling beams and range hood made from the same material.

5 In a Park City kitchen, a marble slab creates a dramatic backdrop for underlit floating wood shelves topped with artfully arranged dishes and glasses. The lighting illuminates the richly veined marble while backlighting the displayed tableware. Design by LMK Interior Design; built by Craig Construction.



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DECORATING



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6 Fish-scale patterned tiles in brilliant blue create an eye-catching backdrop to thick wood shelves in the kitchen of a Victory Ranch cabin in Kamas. Designed by Jill Self, principal of Sticks & Stone, these shelves are placed next to a large window that provides generous light for the pieces they display. Self integrates open shelves into many of her kitchen projects to provide a place for clients to showcase favorite dishes, glasses and collectibles. “It encourages more style and design in the space,” she says.

7 In the kitchen of his modern Lehi home, builder Ezra Lee incorporated inset open shelves into a wall of rift oak cabinetry. Uniquely wide, these open shelves accentuate the horizontal lines of the modern décor as does the wood’s horizontally oriented grain. Lee integrated a sleek light strip into the front edge of each shelf to illuminate the care-

fully displayed pieces, while adding a shot of drama to the room.

8 In a modern Emigration Canyon home, open glass shelves span a wood surround of quarter-sawn walnut. Backed a by an expansive wall dressed in matte blue glass tiles, the shelves are lit with LED lighting built into the backside of the shelves. Built by Jackson & LeRoy; design by Pradhan Design; architecture by R.D. Nielson Design.

9 Combining timeless styling and modern-day functionality, open shelves feature elegant brushed gold-toned frames with white oak shelves in the kitchen pantry of a Highland home built by Jackson & LeRoy. The easy-to-reach shelves extend from the stone countertops to the ceiling, providing abundant storage and display space for the room. Design by Establish Design. ■



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