

(Mobile book) Small Spaces, Beautiful Kitchens (Interior Design and Architecture)

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Tara McLellan

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Tara McLellan : Small Spaces, Beautiful Kitchens (Interior Design and Architecture) before purchasing it in order to gauge whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Small Spaces, Beautiful Kitchens (Interior Design and Architecture):

5 of 5 people found the following review helpful. Helpful Ideas For A Small Kitchen By Customer We will soon be remodeling our small, inefficient kitchen. Reading every word of the text of this book was a great help in identifying the areas of most inefficiency in our current floor plan. The book has significantly helped me in planning how to maximize more fully every square foot that we have available. I especially liked the "interview sections" with various notable kitchen designers and experts. Their observations (especially the European mindset) has caused me to take an honest inventory of my own habits. I feel as though I've gained the expertise of highly paid consultants at just the price of this book. I am much more prepared with ideas and space-conscious efficiencies that I can request and incorporate when I meet with my kitchen designer and cabinetmaker. I echo other words written here that I was disappointed there weren't more floor plans nor a variety of styles in the actual pictures of kitchens used in the book. That being said, the

author has chosen to use pictures that back up her points of emphasis in the text. The majority of the kitchens portrayed in the book are sleek and minimalistic. A few are rather funky. Overall, the book did leave a strong impression on me of how to make the best use of my small space in the most effective manner possible. I have ordered six books from to study as we develop plans for our remodeling project. Thus far, the text from this book has been the most helpful to me out of these six books. 59 of 59 people found the following review helpful. Lovely design, useful tips

By Rena Longworth
If you like contemporary, modern, eclectic, and retro styles, this book is great to look at. If not, borrow it from the library just for the text. I have made more practical moderations to my original ideas from this book than any of the dozens of other books and magazines that I own. For instance, I originally was set on installing a microwave/range hood combination over our stove. This book points out that having a microwave in this position is inconvenient, even dangerous since it is very high up and over an area that is frequently hot. Also, it is difficult for children to reach. Instead, a built-in microwave shelf in a different location makes more sense. The suggestion may not be as space-saving as my original plan, but made sense nonetheless. This coming from a family of four with an 11'x 8' kitchen. The photos presented an assortment of styles, sizes, and cost-ranges although it leaned more toward high-end, contemporary, and larger than my kitchen. I would have liked to see more photos with large key ingredients like refrigerators. I would have preferred to see more floor plans and actual room dimensions. Unfortunately, I have not seen a book yet that was strong in this area. I think that any decorating book that has the word 'small' on it's cover should strive to include those details.

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Good Beginning Overview

By Paula S.
I am a little disappointed with this book. Based on the reviews, I thought I'd get some new ideas. This book is a good introduction for someone who is totally new to kitchen design, e.g., someone who has never heard of the "work triangle" (which my designer says is pass, but I find to be valid!). But it could be a lot meatier. For example, when discussing materials, she only gives a passing description of the pros and cons, often glossing over the cons. Case in point: when discussing tile floors, she sort of mentions that they are hard on the feet, but doesn't talk about noise and breakage. I'm glad I purchased this used and spent less than \$10 on it. However, if you don't know anything about kitchen design, and like to start with the big picture, I'd say it's a good book to start with, but make sure you then look at some other books and resources that go more in-depth.

Do you have an ugly duckling kitchen? If so, take this book and learn how to transform it into the pretty and practical swan it was meant to be. Whether your kitchen is galley-shaped, U-shaped, L-shaped, or just plain small, this hands-on workbook offers ideas for kitchens that suit every lifestyle, from city singles to growing families. The kitchen is the heart of every home: the place where we gather with our families and friends; where we prepare and share food; where we work, entertain, and eat. But many kitchens were not designed with all these functions in mind. As a result, they are too small, too dark, and too cramped -- when what we want is spacious, light, and comfortable. With *Small Spaces Beautiful Kitchens*, you can change all that. In its pages, you'll learn how to turn your kitchen -- no matter how small, how drab, how dysfunctional -- into the kitchen of your dreams.

From Publishers Weekly
It's a little bizarre to find an all-stainless steel kitchen--one with steel cabinet fronts and drawers, and just a blond wood floor and a white ceiling for contrast--described as "a warm, shining space" when "industrial and robotic" would be much more accurate. But the critical faculty is set to "hype" in this airy paean to expensive renovations. McLellan (Fabric Harmony), who used to write for Metropolitan Home magazine, takes readers into the kitchens of the rich and not-so-famous, and juxtaposes architect pitch shots with facing page QA's with the owners or designers and tips for "Creating a Mood" or "Creating Your Palette." Chapters and subchapters cover organization, storage, "Decorating to Trick the Eye," and "Personalizing Your Space"; a glossary, "Directory of Materials," and list of resources are included. The book reads rather like a Martha Stewart-style knockoff: "Vintage items bring a feeling of nostalgia and interest to a kitchen display." And while the title promises small kitchen solutions, a lot of the spaces here will look big to urban dwellers. Without that niche, readers will have to decide if "nostalgia and interest" are enough to create the right mood for them. Copyright 2003 Reed Business Information, Inc.

About the Author
Tara McLellan is a veteran design writer. She has written for Metropolitan Home and is the author of Fabric Harmony. She lives in New Orleans.