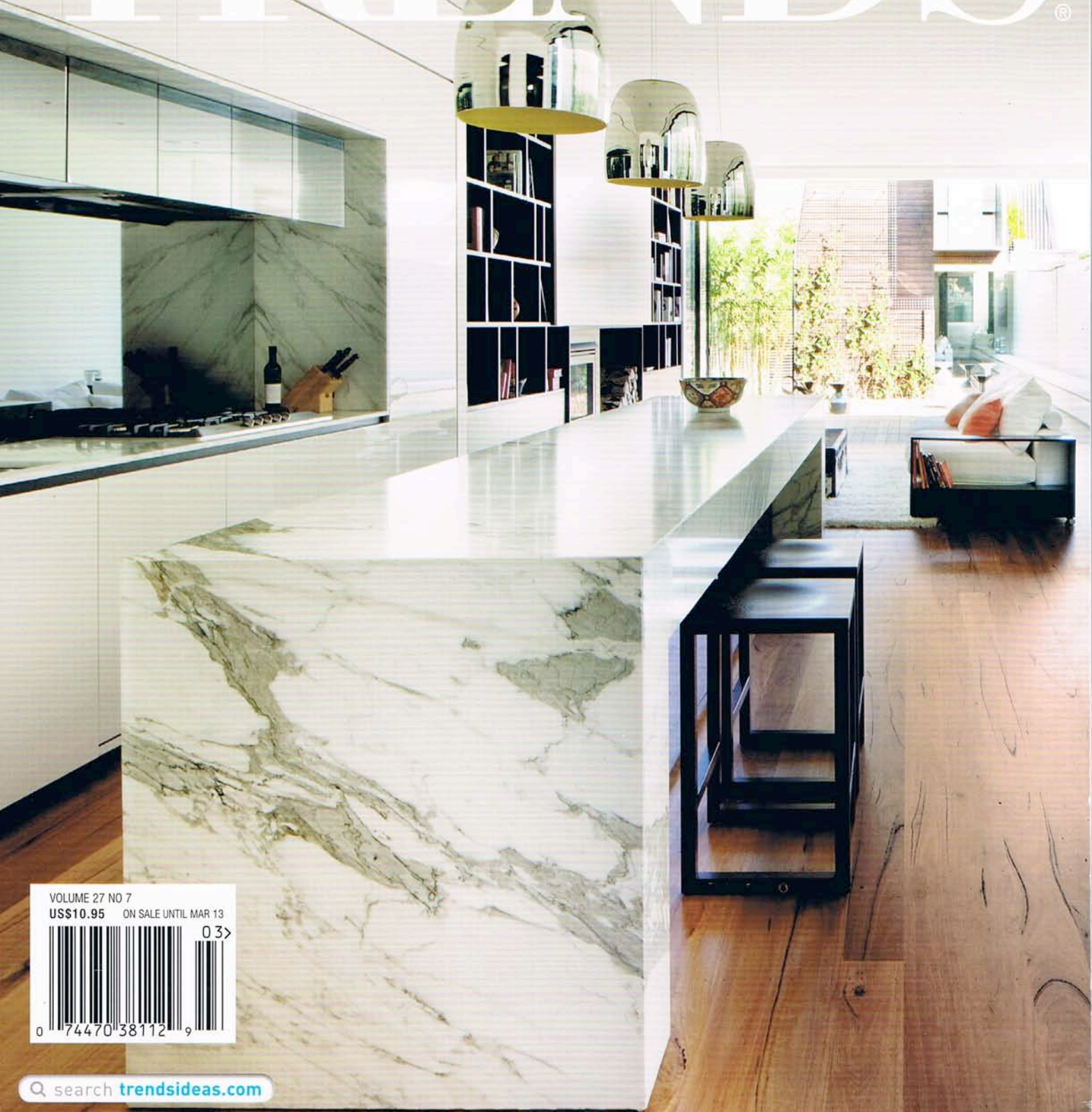


KITCHEN

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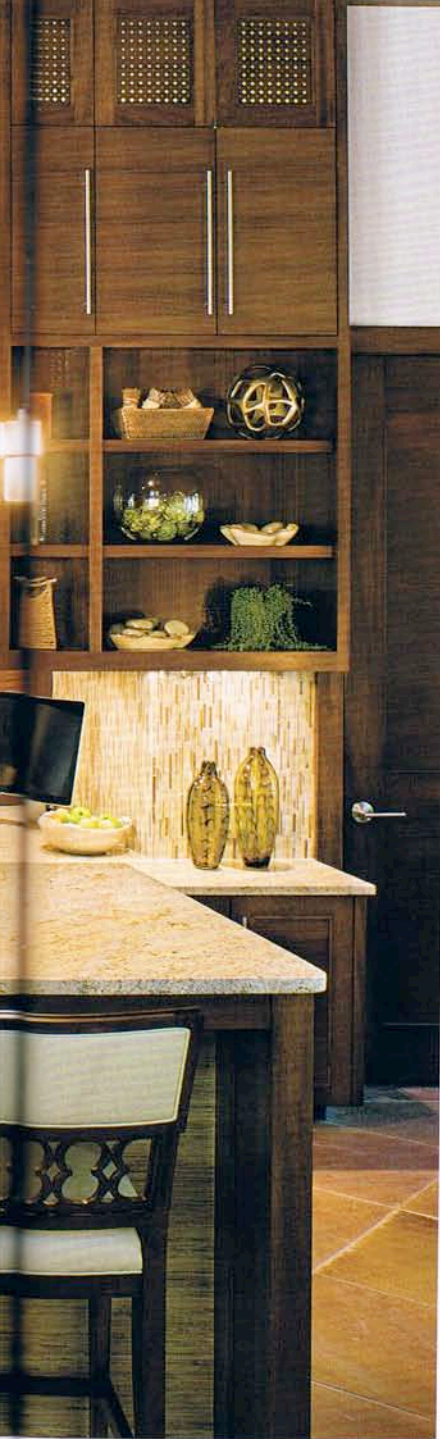


High profile

Twelve-foot ceilings and full-height cabinets enhance the visual drama of this sleek, wood-lined kitchen

Themed kitchens run the risk of being overwhelming in a decorative sense, even when they are designed to match the architecture of the house.

The original kitchen in this Santa Barbara-style house was a case in point. Remodeling architect Cindy Black of Hello Kitchen says some of the Italianate decorative elements impacted on the kitchen's functionality.



"The owners wanted a more practical, modern kitchen, but the design still needed to work with a 12ft-high wood ceiling and sandstone tiled floors," she says.

Christina Shipley of Maison and Bouquet worked closely with the owner to determine the concept for the kitchen. They selected sapele wood cabinetry for its close match to the existing wood

ceilings. Hello Kitchen teamed with Royce Flournoy of Texas Construction to bring their ideas to life.

To provide visual interest, the top row of the cabinets features a lattice panel, backed by a translucent papyrus-style paper and backlit by LED lighting. The top of the cabinetry glows like a lantern at night, Black says.

Directly beneath this row,

there is a bank of cabinets with slab doors, with the horizontal grain of the wood expressed. The rest of the cabinets reference a Shaker look, but with shallow panel doors.

"Having a shallow knife edge, rather than a deep recess gives the cabinetry a flatter look than traditional Shaker doors," says Black. "This helps smooth out the whole kitchen as there are fewer shadows."

Above left: Three different cabinet door styles add visual interest to this all-wood kitchen designed by architect Cindy Black and interior designer Christina Shipley. The top row features lattice panels backlit by LED lighting. The front of the bar is covered with a grass-cloth wallpaper in similar tones to the glass tiled backsplash.

Above: A square island was designed like a table, with an extended countertop and no toekicks.



