



▲ Wrapped in Nature

"Inspired by the client's rugged, multigenerational cabin located in the Morgedal region of Norway, this project explores relationships between architecture and landscape," architect Todd Kennedy says. "The interiors are quiet and natural, which allows the views to be the focus." The kitchen, like the rest of the Aspen-area house, is restrained yet hardworking. Concrete floors ground the white oak that wraps the space as cabinets, walls and ceiling. The architects created visual contrast—rough-hewn against refined—by using two grades of the wood. "The ceiling and wall paneling are a lesser grade and have more character and a little more texture," architect Gage Reese explains. "The cabinet doors are the same material but a higher grade for a cleaner detail. It's a subtle variation that brings a refined quality to the space." Caesarstone countertops match closely in color to the floors, and a small, 4-inch backsplash of the solid surface material gives

way to glass. "The location of the kitchen was prioritized to connect to some of the best views in the house," Kennedy says. "The window-as-backsplash concept was our way of blurring the lines between inside and out in that room."

A 48-inch stainless-steel Kallista sink matches the size and scale of the large window above it. "One thing the clients asked for was a foot actuator for the main sink," Reese says, "so there's a pedal in the toe-kick to activate the faucet." Another subtle touch: Cutouts in the cabinet doors and drawer fronts replace hardware. The kitchen also lacks a standout light fixture—recessed can lights and under-cabinet task lighting fill in when daylight fades. The dining table, however, enjoys a custom chandelier. "The clients wanted a real-flame candle chandelier," Reese says, so he designed one. "It relates to the house and the sloping of the room."

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