

# Midwest Living

midwest living.

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## PERSONAL STYLE

*A city loft  
that feels  
like home*



Warm up your winter

SNUG DECORATING IDEAS

RED-HOT CHILI & HEARTY SALADS

ESCAPE TO SKI, GOLF OR MORE

## ITY STYLE



## KITCHEN

We tucked our kitchen on the living room level under a 7-foot ceiling beneath the loft bedroom. Limited upper cabinets keep the kitchen from feeling cramped, and a tiled ledge above the apron sink offers open storage (*inset*). This efficient space, measuring just 12x14 feet, features a tight work triangle but still provides a place at the island for guests to sit and chat with the cook. Track lighting focuses on specific task areas. Silstone natural quartz countertops, maple KraftMaid cabinetry finished dark and light, and stainless steel Jenn-Air appliances continue the cream, wood and silver finishes carried throughout the loft.

Across from the island, a 9-foot stretch of countertop offers a place to set out hors d'oeuvres and drinks during parties. A bar sink, wine chiller, blender and icemaker make entertaining more convenient.

*(Above)* Our compact kitchen feels larger thanks to cream subway tile and a light-stained wood ceiling. *(Opposite)* The wet bar area sits along a walkway through the kitchen, making it easy for guests to grab a drink or snack.









## BEDROOM

We designed our master bedroom as the ultimate relaxing retreat. The calming aqua-and-cream color scheme from the other rooms continues here, and the bed's layers of beautiful silk linens suit homeowners who no longer need to worry about daily kid abuse. A natural quartz surround adds a contemporary edge to the romantic Heat-N-Glo gas fireplace. With other luxuries like the wall-mounted flat-panel TV, this bedroom getaway is all about relaxation.

Details include Lutron automated privacy shades (inset) and lighting system that are controlled at the touch of a button. Hammered silver lamps and chunky drapery rods with embroidered silk curtains mesh with the exposed metal heating vents that run through the space. Rich, dark, neo-classical furniture pieces provide a striking accent to our soft palette.



(Opposite) Photos of granite children play a heartwarming role in the bedroom's calm ambience. (Above) Shutters offer privacy in the wall openings that overlook the living room, while built-in cabinetry below provides extra storage.

## CITY STYLE



**BATHROOM** Faced with placing a bathroom in an interior space lacking windows, we found innovative ways to add natural light. A glass-blocked portion of the wall between the master bedroom and bath maintains privacy while letting light flow into the bath. Reflective aqua glass-tiled walls help bounce the existing light around. We visually enlarged the space by covering the end wall with a mirror, which also effectively doubled the light. Minimal bath cabinetry and hardware, and creamy countertops also keep the space from feeling crowded.

Brushed nickel, arched neck faucets and contemporary vessel sinks from Kohler offer fresh takes on traditional style. A long wall in the walkway from the bedroom was perfect for cube storage (*inset*). A flip-top bench and robe rack beside the cubes help organize daily bath clutter. A roomy walk-in closet includes a convenient stacking Maytag washer and dryer



(Above left) The glass block wall over the bathtub encourages sunny soaking during the day, while chromotherapy lights in the tub invite evening relaxation. (Above right) The mirrored wall reflects the double sinks and built-in storage

## CITY STYLE



**LOFT/OFFICE** The upper-level guest bedroom looks over a low wall to the living room and banks of tall windows there. The elevated space works as a home office, or as a sleeping loft when guests stay over. This area provides a clear look at the concrete and metal that define this as a loft unit.

We outfitted the room with a desk, sleeper sofa, reading chair and a campaign chest for storage, as well as a thick rug that could provide a soft pad for a grandkid's sleeping bag.

The upper-level bathroom (next) contains a shower and features a vessel sink with wall-mounted faucet and eye-catching back-splash set atop a sophisticated furniture-like base cabinet. ■

For product information, see page 98.



(Above) Light walls make this loft feel large, while dark-toned accents give it sophistication. Graphic patterns give the space colorful energy.

## GREAT BEGINNINGS

Meredith Corporation and the following sponsors and contributors partnered to design lofts in Des Moines' Brown Camp Hardware Building, completing a renovation begun in the mid '90s. The 1924 building stands near the Des Moines and Raccoon rivers and once housed one of the Midwest's largest hardware wholesalers.

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