



SMALL DETAILS

If budgets are really tight, you'll be amazed how much of a difference it can make to change seemingly minor things like power-point covers, light switches, handles and tapware.



Get mid-century style

Just love the look? Make a modern kitchen appear more 'mid-century' by including these hallmarks of the style.

- ✓ Real wood: Look for pieces made of real (not pressed) teak, walnut, oak and rosewood.
- ✓ Bold pendant lights: No tidy, recessed downlights please – the bolder, the better when it comes to lights. Look for pieces that are almost like sculptural art for a striking look.
- ✓ Bar carts: Fill your bar cart with vintage glasses, expensive liquors and of course a cocktail shaker.
- ✓ Clean lines: The 50s, in particular were all about simplicity. Replace curved, ornate kitchen cabinets with plain, flat wood ones and, overall, keep the lines in your kitchen clean, simple and uncluttered.
- ✓ Accessorise: Think about adding 60s-style stools to your breakfast bar, a 50s-style clock on the wall, metal planters or even a must-have sunburst mirror – an icon of the era.



This stunning makeover of a 1960s home (from top and cover), by Karen Aston Design, stays true to the period but introduces a return breakfast bar in place of the original dining table.

composite stone for bench and countertops. "If a full update is required due to worn out cabinetry and finishes then keep with the ethos of this period," she says.

"Mid-century kitchens were all about clean lines, simplicity and function. So think minimal D pulls or cut outs for cabinets, easy clean, low-maintenance surfaces and the use of warm timber veneers or plywood, or simple white laminate doors."

The splashback is another detail to get exactly right or risk your kitchen looking too modern and out of place.

"A lot of modern homes have glass splashbacks but a mid-century kitchen will always have a tiled splashback," Rob says.

Finishing touches

Mid-century design can also be referenced through ornamental items so embrace your local antique store and hunt down some original pieces to add authenticity to your space if modern appliances are looking a little "too modern".

"Mid-century design can be evoked in the way you dress a kitchen, so designing display areas like open shelves allows you to reference the era in different ways," Travis says. "It also means you can rotate the objects when you feel like a change of scene."

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Pottery Barn Brady Bar Cart, \$634, potterybarn.com.au



Copper plant stand, \$50, by Wirely Home on Etsy, etsy.com

