

# THESE 35+ BEAUTIFUL BUTLER’S PANTRIES MAKE THE PERFECT CULINARY COMPANIONS

*No Mr. Carson required.*

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SAVE ARTICLE



Courtesy Magnolia

If you’ve ever thrown a dinner party, you’ll doubtless be familiar with a specific kind of melee that consumes the kitchen—the broken wine glasses that fell victim to an errant elbow, the tower of saucepans growing in the sink, and oh, is that a tier of an overly ambitious layered dessert we spy on the floor? Fortunately, there’s a design solution for controlling the chaos: the butler’s pantry. And, if you’re planning to remodel your home, there’s never been a better time to have one. A butler’s pantry, a passagelike storage and prep space generally tucked between the kitchen and dining room, is an entertainer’s dream, providing an area to store dishware and table linens, put finishing touches on your latest culinary masterpiece, and clean up. It’s like a storage pantry but for those on the go.

The butler’s pantry reached its apex in Victorian England and America, when formal dining, not to mention pomp and circumstance, was de rigueur. “Whether a house had a butler or not, the butler’s pantry—or serving pantry—became a distinctive buffer between the kitchen and the dining room,” writes Catherine Seiberling Pond in her 2007 book, The Pantry: Its History and Modern Uses. “It was a place to serve food and keep it warm, to wash the finest dishes and glassware, and to polish the silver. Symbolically it was a place between servant and sire.”

At the turn of the 20th-century as technological innovations such as refrigeration, efficient all-in-one storage systems, and changing social mores rendered it nearly obsolete, the butler’s pantry fell out of favor. Recently, however, as all-things farmhouse decor rules the roost and as entertaining comes roaring back post-pandemic, it has had a surprising resurgence. “As kitchen design trends evolve, we have seen the pantry undergo a transformation from a simple storage element to a dedicated and functional room,” affirms Michaela Ross from Arclinea, a nearly century-old Italian firm specializing in luxury kitchen design and storage solutions.

While most of us don’t have the luxury of our own personal Mr. Carson, a butler’s pantry is turning out to be the perfect in-between space to tuck away sundries and put the final touches on those canapés for your latest dinner party. And though they’re out of sight, they’re certainly not out of mind for interior design buffs; a butler’s pantry’s petite footprint makes it a prime destination to flaunt your taste, whether you choose a bold wallpaper or paint your kitchen cabinets in a look-at-me shade. For help, we’ve rounded up some of the most stylish butler’s pantry ideas around.

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## BUTLER'S PANTRY WITH A SEATING NOOK



Daniel Stranahan

Tailor your butler's pantry to reflect your life's needs and tastes. This desk with a lovely lookout is the perfect little workspace by [KitchenLab Design](#).