

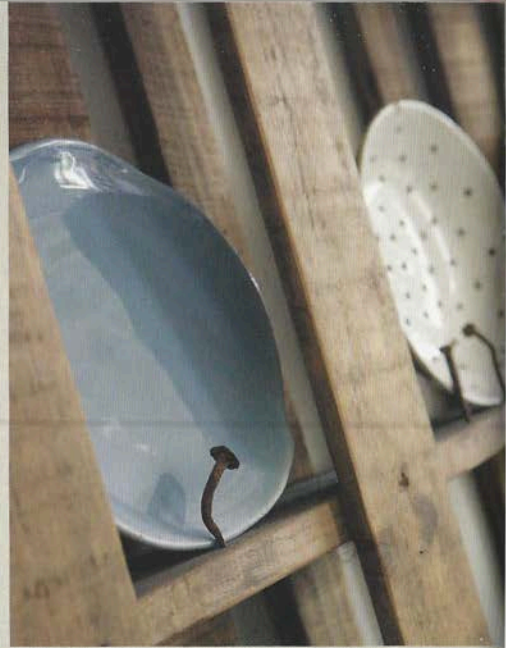


# my cool kitchen.

a style guide to unique and inspirational kitchens

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Katrin Ahrens is an artist who works in wood, fabric and ceramics. Whichever materials she fashions, she has a passion for simplicity and a talent for creating beautiful functional pieces out of reclaimed materials. This kitchen is in her old mill house in Italy. She was viewing another property when she spotted this abandoned house in the distance on the other side of the valley and knew instinctively that this was the right place for her. Katrin relishes a challenge and she quickly began work on restoring it. However, she did not attempt to change the original configuration, and the kitchen opens up onto a long exterior balcony. Her ethos is to create limited edition pieces that are unique and site-specific, taking their cue from the proportions of the room. She has stayed true to her design compass and philosophy in her own kitchen, creating a very understated, natural look.

## **katrin ahrens' mill house**

### **style notes**

To be truthful to the origins of all the materials in her kitchen, Katrin used them as her guide when selecting the colour palette. All the tones have a gentle quality and are very pale, neutral or wood. The walls are pleasingly uneven with a distinctive surface that 'looks like ricotta cheese' and, rather than using a brilliant white modern finish, Katrin has painted them a more gentle greyish tone of white. The pieces of wooden furniture are nearly all of her own creation, using reclaimed and recycled materials. She has long collected interesting pieces of no longer wanted old wood from carpentry workshops and abandoned buildings. The kitchen doors, for example, were originally shutters in an old farmhouse. Katrin looks at each piece and instinctively knows what she needs to do with it. She doesn't like to over-complicate and over-construct an object – simplicity is key for her.

