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Designers Agree: Every Kitchen Needs a "Bantry" in 2026

They're part storage solutions, part entertaining zones.

BY ERICA FINAMORE | PUBLISHED: APR 6, 2026

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Just when you thought **the kitchen had done it all**, designers have found yet another corner to overhaul. Enter the bantry: a bar-meets-pantry. Part storage solution, part entertaining zone, the bantry takes everything you were already trying to cram into your kitchen (like coffee setups, cocktail supplies, snack drawers, and small appliances), and gives it a dedicated, better-looking home. Think cabinets that hide the chaos, shelves that show off the good stuff, and enough personality to make the whole thing feel intentional rather than improvised.

What makes it work is how unfussy it is. You don't need **a full renovation** or even a walk-in pantry, just a bit of space and a smarter plan. Designers are treating bantries like mini destinations within the kitchen, layering in materials, lighting, and layout tricks that make them feel as considered as the rest of the room. The result is a setup that's not only **more organized** but also way more fun to use. Here's what to know about setting up your own bantry at home.

What Is a Bantry?



LAUREN MILLER PHOTOGRAPHY

Bantry corner in a home by Sam Sacks Design.

At its core, the bantry is less about adding space and more about rethinking how the kitchen actually works. As kitchens continue to open up into living areas, all the behind-the-scenes activities (and inevitable clutter) need somewhere else to go.

"The bantry is really the evolution of the traditional walk-in pantry," says designer **Dvira Ovadia**. "What was once a purely utilitarian storage space has become a highly curated, multipurpose room that supports everything from food prep to entertaining."

The goal is simple: keep the main kitchen looking clean and pulled together, while everything else happens just out of sight.