

Kitchen & Bath | Cooktops | by Dave Holbrook

From the Patio. Backyard kitchens may be all the rage right now, but this outdoor-equipment maker is moving the action back inside with its kick-ass *Vintage Professional Cooktop*. The polished stainless steel unit features six burners in a roomy, continuous grate; burner capabilities range from 12,000 to 20,000 Btu. Front-mounted controls on an angled face boast blue indicator lights. The cooktop lists at \$2,500.

Vintage Luxury Cooking Appliances, 800/998-8966, www.vintage-grills.com.



Wok Like a Man. There's nothing like stir-fry to stir the human soul — or to splatter the place with greasy smoke. Better install a high-power extraction blower over this 30,000-Btu unit. The 24-inch *Professional Wok Cooktop* is a dedicated, single-burner appli-

ance that can also accommodate large stockpots. For the best home-cooked fast food in the world, figure on forking over around \$1,860.

Dynamic Cooking Systems, 800/433-8466, www.dcsappliances.com.



Six Stars. Thermador's cooktops feature incredibly cool-looking and efficient star-shaped gas burners. The *PSC366ZS* provides six of these great burners under one great grate; it lists at \$2,200. For other burner and griddle configurations, see the company's Web site.

Thermador, 866/558-4376, www.thermador.com.

Induction Instruction. Let's pretend you know all about induction cooking. You should, because I bet your clients do. (Hint: It's magnetic.) The *Wolf Induction Cooktop* measures 15 inches wide and includes one 6- and one 8¹/₂-inch-diameter heating zone. The zones can produce 1,800 watts of power simultaneously; the larger, rear element features a "Hi-Power" boost to 2,200 watts for a quick boil or sear. The cooktop costs about \$1,400.

Wolf Appliances, 800/332-9513, www.wolfappliance.com.



Kitchen & Bath | Jetted Tubs

Blast from the Past. Need early-1900s-style plumbing fixtures to complete a vintage look? You may find a suitable whirlpool tub in Kohler's Bancroft Suite. The 5-foot *ProFlex* (shown) and 5½-foot *Experience Whirlpool, Bath, and BubbleMassage Bath* models both offer water and air jets, integral heaters, automatic and manual purge cycles, and more. The tubs coordinate with other fixtures and fittings in the suite. Prices range from \$530 to \$1,580 for the ProFlex, and \$925 to \$2,600 for the Experience, depending on options chosen.

Kohler, 920/457-4441, www.kohler.com.



Tub Ahoy. Your clients can unwind in a tight spot with the *Atlantica* bath, originally designed to fit within the snug hull of a yacht. The fixture comes in a variety of configurations: soaker-only, whirlpool, air-bath, or whirlpool and air-bath combo. An optional aromatherapy cylinder allows essential oils to be introduced into the air system. The whirlpool (shown) costs \$2,520 in white, biscuit, bone, or almond; other colors spur an upcharge.

MTI Whirlpools, 800/783-8827, www.mtiwhirlpools.com.



A Better Bath.

With a tubful of options, including a waterfall filler, hydro-jets, hot-air jets, combined jets, and a water heater, the *Urban 7242* defies its maker's description as a "minimalist bathtub." Heating elements embedded in the tub surface warm the shoulder and neck zone. The high-gloss acrylic vessel comes in white or biscuit and costs \$1,900 option-free; with all the bells and whistles, the price floats up to about \$4,700.

Maax, 800/348-2211, www.maax.com.



New Standards. For upgrades beyond the average whirlpool fare, look to the *Comfort Plus Series*. New standard features — muscle-pummeling back jets, a water heater for sustained bathing comfort, optional color "therapy" lighting — jazz up today's Jacuzzis. The jet system circulates both air and water, and allegedly creates a powerful full-body massage. The line contains six models, with prices starting around \$2,300.

Jacuzzi North America, 800/288-4002, www.jacuzzi.com.