"I wanted this kitchen to feel timeless, while still fitting in with the '50s style of the house," says Carla Lane, a designer in Los Angeles. "I repainted the cabinets white to freshen them up. Then it was all about adding storage and pops of color."

Get this sunny look on a cheer-you-up budget!

TIM STREET-PORTER.

REGROUP WITH YOUR WHOLE GANG IN THIS BRIGHT, OPEN ROOM. WHO COULD RESIST ITS RETRO CHARM—AND ALL THAT SHINY COUNTER SPACE?

26 REAL IDEAS