



# Born This Way

Cooking up kitchens has been a way of life  
for this award-winning designer



by Suzette Lipscomb



**T**he Kitchen Lady knows a thing or 200 about kitchens. Aside from the fact that she has been designing them for around 30 years, Priscilla Crother grew up in the business. She was raised by parents who owned a kitchen and bath company, was inspired by a degree in Home Economics and Interior Design, and has completed hundreds of kitchen remodels and build-outs. She's convinced it's the job she was born to do. Houzz named her Best in Kitchen Design for 2015, an award that reflects her commitment to excellence in her field, and captures the passion she has for livable kitchens that match a client's personality.

Shuttling between Los Angeles and San Diego, the Orange County-based Crother still meets with all of her clients personally to assess their needs and lifestyle. Her partnership with Pirch at SOCO has been a great marriage, with three of her kitchen designs featured there (including a spectacular outdoor one). She also maintains a traditional showroom in San Juan Capistrano and a newly minted modern one in Laguna Beach.

*She observes a trend in her own designs toward a modern sensibility.*

Allmilmio state of the art olive wood kitchen with cream, high gloss accent panels from their Modern Art Collection. **ABOVE:** Priscilla Crother, the Kitchen Lady



“Forty percent of people who design and build kitchens don’t really cook,” she says over espresso. “Museum kitchens are for people who don’t like to see anything on display.” A brand that pairs well with museum kitchens is Allmilmo - her newest exclusive luxury German line that captures modern sensibilities with sleek, clean lines and pure colors. Allmilmo cabinets complement the trend toward greening up kitchens with accessories like herbal plant walls and living bark back splashes.

These days, she says, more men are finding their way into the kitchen. In past decades, she noted that the majority of inquiries came from women looking to remodel, but increasingly, men are spearheading these projects in greater numbers and are especially interested in her efficient space planning skills. She observes the trend in her own design toward a clean modern sensibility. And one her clients can enjoy for a lifetime. As she explains, “Most people only remodel their kitchen once, so it’s important to do it right.”

[the-kitchen-lady.com](http://the-kitchen-lady.com)

**CLOCKWISE:** The Kitchen Lady Flips Out with Jeff Lewis. Allmilmo’s modern lined cabinets come in a variety of eco friendly finishes and colors. Huntington Beach kitchen features clean, white Bentwood Luxury Cabinets, a sea inspired backsplash and Princess White natural quartz counters.