

# International Inspiration

We bring you five projects showcasing clever countertop solutions, as featured in Taschen's *100 Contemporary Houses*

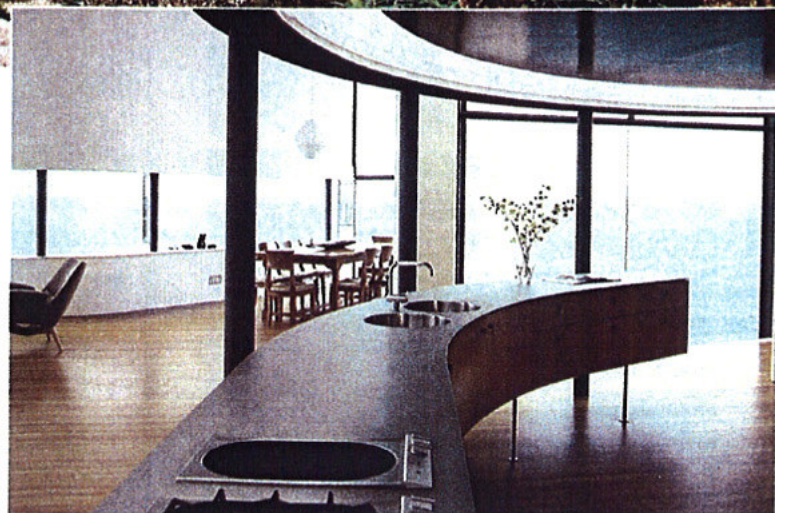


## Curved composite worktop, Australia

Durbach Block Architects [www.durbachblock.com](http://www.durbachblock.com)

Images: Reiner Blunck / Durbach Block Architects

Both the interior and exterior design reflects that this 400m<sup>2</sup> Sydney home was built at the edge of a 70m high cliff. A sweeping curve in the open kitchen and large glazed surfaces further enhance the drama of the site, with the countertop successfully guiding your gaze towards the views, while sparse furnishing makes way for the play of light across the floors and wall surfaces.



## Steel countertop, Canada

Patkau Architects [www.patkau.ca](http://www.patkau.ca)

Images: James Dow

This 340m<sup>2</sup>, 84-metre long house, surrounded by Douglas fir trees and an orchard, has an element of 'invisibility' – the exterior is clad in Charcoal-coloured fibre-cement panels, and the interior in acrylic panels. In the kitchen, the steel countertop contributes to this translucence, along with the extensive use of glazing. The kitchen windows can be shut with folding panels. ▶

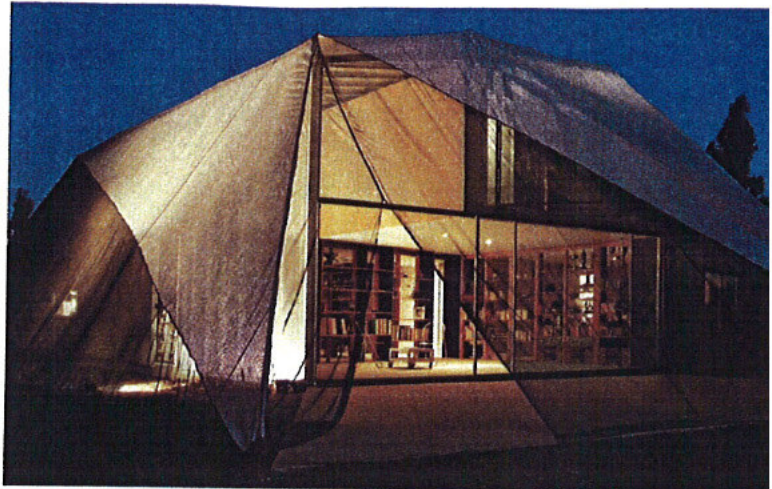


## Concrete worktop, Chile

FAR frohn&rojas [www.f-a-r.net](http://www.f-a-r.net)

Images: Cristobal Palma

This 230m<sup>2</sup> house is built from a concrete core, surrounded by engineered wood shelving bands containing the kitchen, dining and guest rooms on the ground floor and a work studio above. It's therefore only fitting to have introduced a concrete countertop in the kitchen! A perfect example of style and substance.

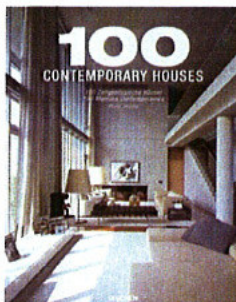


## Solid Carrara marble countertop, Malaysia

Jouin Manku [www.jouinmanku.com](http://www.jouinmanku.com)

Images: Roland Halbe

On this project, the architect also acted as interior designer, and it shows! This kitchen countertop is a solid block of the world renowned Carrara (white) marble from Italy. It certainly complements the splendour of this nine bedroom 3,000m<sup>2</sup> house in Kuala Lumpur. ▶



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