

# Star Kitchen

The Oscars' marquee chef, **Wolfgang Puck**, shows us his Beverly Hills home kitchen.

PHOTOGRAPHS BY JEREMY SAMUELSON

It's hard to believe that Wolfgang Puck has any time to cook at home these days: He has 104 restaurants, plus lines of pizzas, soups and cookware and, oh, that little Oscar dinner he throws this month (March 7 marks his 16th Governors Ball). But he still makes pancakes each morning for his Ethiopian-born wife, Gelila, and their two sons, Oliver, 4, and Alexander, 3. In his worn jeans, Wolfgang comes across less like a food-world legend and more like a proud, laid-back suburban dad, albeit one with a real Warhol hanging in the living room. Wolfgang and Gelila designed their kitchen when they bought the house in 2003, and most of the recent updates are for the kids: They baby-proofed the space, removing the knobs from the stove (the chef manages to turn it on without them) and swapping out their expensive cookbook collection for children's titles. The couple even converted the dining room into a rubber-floored rumpus room. "We're not very formal here," Wolfgang says. Gelila agrees: "You can try to be, but the kids just take over anyway!"



## INDESTRUCTIBLE COUNTERS

The couple considered wood countertops to match the home's country look but ultimately opted for marble because it's easier to clean and maintain. "It's not a showroom," Wolfgang says. His one criticism of the big island: It's not big enough!



## BUILT-IN WINE RACKS

These wine holders save Wolfgang a trip down to the cellar, but he's wary of keeping good bottles here for long because they can be ruined by changes in temperature. When the kids are out of their "getting-into-everything" phase, the chef plans to install a small wine fridge in the island.



