



Kitchen Confidential
 This outdoor kitchen is equipped with a warming drawer, icemaker, refrigerator and custom lightweight concrete counters by Boulevard Concrete. boulevardconcrete.com

Rooftop Makeover

“People are really pushing the idea of the outdoor room and are including all of the elements you would find in indoor spaces like living rooms and kitchens,” says Adam Miller of Chicago Roof Deck + Garden. Case in point is this rooftop balcony in Lincoln Park that was once unused space holding nothing more than an air-conditioning unit. Miller and his team completely built up the space—a typical project for the firm—installing the flooring (a mix of ipe, a tropical hardwood, decking and stone tile in the kitchen area), walls and iron girding, along with plumbing and a gas connection. The homeowners did their research and came armed with Pinterest boards of ideas, which Miller and his team brought to life. Since the main goal was an entertaining space, the team created areas for lounging, cooking and dining, with a fireplace wall as a divider (there is also a fire-pit coffee table). One key element that makes the space cohesive is the fact that most of the pieces, such as tables and counters, are custom-built to fit the space. Since the building’s architecture includes a lot of exposed brick and steel beams, Miller referenced that in the outdoor materials “to make [the architecture] look like it had always been there.” He laughs that Chicagoans talk about being tough from the weather but they use their outdoor space for three months. “If it is planned well, you can be outside in Chicago for nine months of the year!” *Chicago Roof Deck + Garden, 1859 N. Elston Ave., 773.857.2277, chicagorooftopdeck.com —AM*



ROOFTOP MAKEOVER PHOTO BY CYNTHIA LYNN