



7 AWESOME KITCHEN ITEMS

By Alia Akkam



MUBAMBOO DISH TOWELS ↑

Soft, absorbent MUBamboo dishtowels are made with 100 percent sustainable woven bamboo and are 100 percent biodegradable. Available in happy colors like lime and aqua, MUBamboo uses eco-friendly dyes. www.mukitchen.com

IT THINKS FOR YOU ↑

Having a Miele appliance is like having a built-in kitchen assistant. And a savvy one at that. With the steam oven, food cooks nutritiously and quickly (rice 17 minutes, broccoli 3 minutes) with flavor being added via herbs, spices, stock, or wine. In refrigerators, sections can be instantly set to the proper temperature for the foods you're storing with one touch, and come equipped with a sensor that will report any faults directly to a service center, via Wi-Fi. Dishwashers have up to 14 programs, like one for baked-on cheese or a gentle cycle for crystal. As a bonus, Miele showrooms around the country invite you to test drive any of their products—do a load of laundry, see if your dishes fit in the dishwasher, test your favorite recipes, watch a cooking demo—and really learn about all the wonderful capabilities. On top of all this, the company is devoted to being green, see the website for details. www.miele.com/usa —E.S.



LA CHAMBA COOKWARE

In Half Moon Bay, California, My Toque carries La Chamba Cookware from Colombia. Handmade from clay that contains mica, this cookware line—including our favorite, the sturdy casserole dish, perfect for baked chicken—can really withstand high heat. All pieces are hand-burnished, not glazed, so they're also toxin-free. www.mytoque.com



ZAK TUMBLERS

The next time you've got a hankering for juice, pour some into one of Zak's whimsical Confetti tumblers made from recycled melamine. The set features cups in bright kiwi, turquoise, magenta, and orange hues. www.zak.com



BAMBU KITCHEN CANDLE

You may know Bambu for its beautiful cutting boards and bowls made of bamboo laminates, but they also have a quality candle in their portfolio. The kitchen candle, strong enough to camouflage the lingering smell of that accidentally burned chicken or the trash that has yet to be taken out, is made with U.S. grown soybeans infused with bamboo essence. It also features an all-cotton wick. www.bambuhome.com