

A photograph of a modern loft interior. In the foreground, a curved bar with a white base and a dark wood top holds several lemons. Behind the bar, a wooden wall features a yellow sunburst sculpture. In the background, a large window with a black frame looks out onto a city at night. A red and black lounge chair is positioned near the window. To the right, a tall, silver, wavy sculpture stands on a white base. The overall lighting is warm and dramatic, highlighting the architectural details and furniture.

by **KATHERINE STONE** host of HGTV's *Lofty Ideas*

LOFT DESIGN

SOLUTIONS FOR CREATING A LIVABLE SPACE

rockport



> Create a private sleeping area by hiding your bed behind an opaque partition wall. By leaving just enough space on either side of the bed to access your built-in storage, the open feeling of your loft can be retained.



◁ The path that plumbing pipes, electrical wires, and ductwork take can map out your floor plan. Usually considered details that should be hidden behind a ceiling, many loft owners have opted for the maximum ceiling height instead of losing inches or feet boxing in huge industrial ducts.



~ Adding another layer of sheetrock to existing walls and leaving a gap between the two considerably reduces sound transmission. Applied with careful finesse, rectilinear cement board normally reserved for wet installations imparts a distinctive identity. The visual and tactile are simultaneously addressed with the installation of recessed lights between the wallboard panels.

> Track or cable lighting is the most flexible solution, because it allows you to add lights and adjust focus easily. The zany twists of a cable system add levity to a very linear kitchen. Lamps are positioned to illuminate the intricate tin ceiling and distinct steel columns that punctuate the cabinetry.



< In the loft version of hearth and home, cold hard steel is tempered with butter-colored floors and paint, a rustic brick wall, and a welcoming fire.

