

WINTER 2022

HOME TRENDS

DESIGN/BUILD REMODEL • CUSTOM HOMES • CUSTOM DECKS



All About Creating Contrast in the Kitchen

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Kitchen Islands Make the Holidays Better

The holidays are here, and that means it is time for friends and family to get together. As the host of holiday festivities, you know that the kitchen has become the central gathering place for most events, with the kitchen island being the center of attention.

The kitchen island has been a long-time favorite feature of the kitchen, but it is also incredibly functional and can make or break a get-together. Want to know how to optimize your kitchen island this holiday season? Here's how your kitchen island will make your holiday gatherings even better:

Your Island Makes Food Prep Much Easier

Trying to set out all the ingredients you need for your famous Christmas cookie recipe on a small, already crowded countertop is annoying and will most certainly lead to something getting knocked over. Having a large island space where you have more than enough room to spread out the ingredients and roll out the dough is a must.

The kitchen island is also a nice, spacious area to chop veggies or get the turkey prepped for the oven. Best of all, if you're preparing food while guests are over, you can still easily

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All About Creating Contrast in the Kitchen

As 2022 comes to an end, so does the ultra-matchy kitchen trend. The all-white kitchen is on its way out. Instead, we are seeing a trend towards combining design elements and textures to create a more interesting and appealing space in your home.

Not quite sure how this works? Well, the great thing is that nothing is off limits - here are some ideas:

Combine Styles

You don't have to decide on one design theme like "modern" or "farmhouse." Instead, you can combine styles to create a space that is unique to you. For example, we like combining sleek, modern cabinets and counters with antique-style lighting and door handles.



Pair Unlikely Textures and Materials

Does a rustic natural wood countertop and a glamorous marble tiled backsplash sound like a combination that would work? Surprisingly, it does. The new kitchen trend brings together materials that are not an obvious pairing to create an exciting and eye-appealing space.

Another example could be using natural stone flooring, which is usually seen in a traditional style kitchen, with sleek black cabinets and metal countertops that would be considered more modern.

Combining different wood tones is also a great way to incorporate this trend into your kitchen. You could have dark hardwood floors paired with light wood, like oak, for your cabinets. This used to be a "no-no" in design, but not anymore!

Throw The Color Wheel Out The Window

What's so fun about this home design trend is that the old design rules don't have to be followed. You can and should use colors that don't typically work together – the key is in the shade and the types of materials you use.



It's okay to have a light shade of gray for the cabinets with a bold orange and bright blue backsplash. You can use blacks and browns together. If you wanted to, you could even have lime green cabinets with lavender floral wallpaper on an accent wall – we could make it work!

Pay Extra Attention to The Finishes

For this trend to work, you need to pay close attention to the finishes. It used to be that all the finishes had to be one color or material, but with this trend, that's frowned upon.

You can have a bronze-colored kitchen sink that matches your door pulls, but then have your faucet be a completely different material like chrome. The materials you use will complement the rest of the kitchen and tie the entire look together.

Ready To Get Creative?

We know this trend is very different from what used to be the standard in kitchen design. Don't worry, that doesn't mean it will look bad. In fact, the new and exciting combination of colors, textures, and styles will be a welcomed change!

If you'd like to get started with putting ideas together, let's chat! We will be able to discuss what you like and what you need and create a functional and on-trend space.

Let's get started!



Add Some Contrast to the Exterior

Looking ahead to 2023, it seems as if kitchens with contrasting colors, textures, and materials will be all the rage. But this trend doesn't have to be limited to your kitchen. Let's take this trend outside.

Adding contrast to your home's exterior may sound like a challenge, but it can be easily done. If you want to be the first person on your block to hop on this trend, here are some ideas to make it happen.

The Front Door

Having a front door that makes a statement has been on trend for years, but now we are taking it up a notch. If you have a traditional style home, you can add a front door that is sleek and modern. If your home is more modern, you could install a big, sturdy wood door for contrast.

If that's not enough, add some hardware that seems a little over the top. For example, we love stainless steel office-style pulls – these are vertical door pulls that can extend the length of the door. This will give your front door an even more dramatic effect to welcome you home.



Wood and Stone

We love mixing materials, and for your home's exterior, wood and stone are the unlikely pairings we love the most. We don't like the two materials to match each other. Instead, we opt for either white or earth-toned stones with red brick. The contrast in color and materials will give your home's exterior dimension.

Try Out Some Metal

Metal might not be on the list of materials you want to use in your home, but give it a chance! Mixing metal with just about any other material will instantly make your home look more modern.

Using metal will be a great option if you need to replace your siding. Metal works great on the roof, too, and would look great with the wood and stone pairing.

Are you ready to create an exciting exterior for your home? Now is the time to do so! There aren't many rules when it comes to this latest trend, so let's get creative.

New & Unusual Finishing Touches for the Kitchen

Let's look at some examples of how to incorporate this trend into your kitchen remodel:

Range Hood

An easy way to add contrast to your kitchen is by including an unusual range hood into your design. Choosing a range hood that does not match the rest of décor will make it stand out.

If you have a modern kitchen with dark colors, a soft white range hood would be a good choice. If you have an all-white kitchen, adding a natural wood range hood will add warmth to the space.

Lighting

We want your lighting to make a statement. Regardless of your kitchen's style, adding unique pendant lights over the island or a large chandelier made out of a material that has



is not used anywhere else in the kitchen will add contrast to your kitchen in the best way.

Two-Tone

Two tone kitchen cabinets have been growing in popularity. Now, we're taking that trend and adding to it. The two-tone cabinets can be paired with marble countertops and a stone backsplash. Or you could have natural stone flooring with wood cabinets and a different tone wood countertop.

These are only a couple of suggestions to get your wheels turning. If you have more questions, just ask!

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converse with them instead of having your back turned if you are using counter space.

More Space Means More Food

What's the best part of holiday gatherings? The food! Having a kitchen island allows you to have more countertop "real estate" to set out dishes. You can set out appetizers and a charcuterie board on your island for your guests to snack on while they mingle.

Kitchen islands make dinner time easier too. It serves as a convenient place to set up a buffet-style meal where everyone can get in line, grab a plate, and efficiently snake around the island to fill it up.



More Storage Space

Not only does a kitchen island provide more surface area to set out and prepare food, but you also get more storage space too. The kitchen island is great for storing large kitchen appliances like your mixer, crockpot, and blender. You can also store serving platters that only come out once in a while in the island cabinets. This extra cabinet space will allow for more organized cabinets throughout your kitchen.



What's Better Than One Island? Two Islands!

Having one island is a must, but having two islands is an absolute game-changer. You'll have more space for food, friends, and decorations. The outer island could have seating available while the center island could just be for standing room only. Or you could set up a cookie decorating station for the kids on one island while the adults gather around the second for some snacks and conversation.

How will you be using your kitchen islands this holiday season? However you spend your holidays, we hope loved ones and good times surround you!

