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THE VALLEY'S REMODEL & DESIGN MAGAZINE

HOME REMODEL MAGAZINE

LEHIGH & NORTHAMPTON COUNTIES

Volume 2 Issue 5



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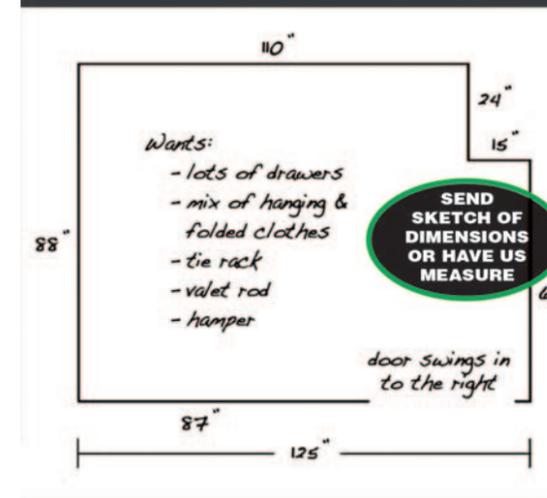


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PUBLISHER'S NOTE

Welcome Back...to the pages of *Your Home Remodel Magazine*. I have missed you! And I am happy to share with you this special issue on exciting topics such as Kitchen Design, where we will share new ideas on cabinet color and design. Home Offices and Work Spaces, where working at home is the new norm. And Garage Organization, where you will find many options to help get your garage in tip top shape, plus so much more

Remodeling your home, whether you're installing new floors or windows, or doing a complete Kitchen Design, is the new HOT Trend that doesn't seem to be letting up. And why not, we are spending more and more time in our home. It's our sanctuary. A meeting place for friends and family. A place to work and play. And where your heart is... your Home.

The past 6 months have been challenging but I would not have been able to do it without your readership and support. I would also like to express how grateful I am to my clients who continue to promote their businesses in the pages of *Your Home Remodel Magazine*. I am so appreciative of them.

Thank you to all and stay safe and well my friends! Until the next issue...



Tina DeSantis Perrotta

Publisher & Editor-in-Chief

Tina@YHRMAG.com



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GETTOWORK

In Your Home Office or Work Space

Whether you're looking to add an office to your home because you've suddenly found yourself working remotely or you see the value in adding one to increase the retail value of your home, there's many simple remodels that

can transform a spare bedroom or a den into an attractive and productive work space.

When designing a luxury home office, the options can seem overwhelming. Do you want a modern and contemporary style.. Or would you prefer a more traditional space, filled with mahogany and leather. The good news is, with a home office, you have many options for making it your own and way more comfortable than that cubicle in an office building. Being at home allows you the freedom to create an environment that feels like your own, yet still professional enough for video conferences. Your home office can serve double duty, being a source of pride you happily show off to virtual guests now and in-person visitors in the future (we can only hope!). It can also be that quiet, calming space for private time when you need to get work completed at full concentration mode. There are many ways to make your home office a space where you can work efficiently without feeling stressed.



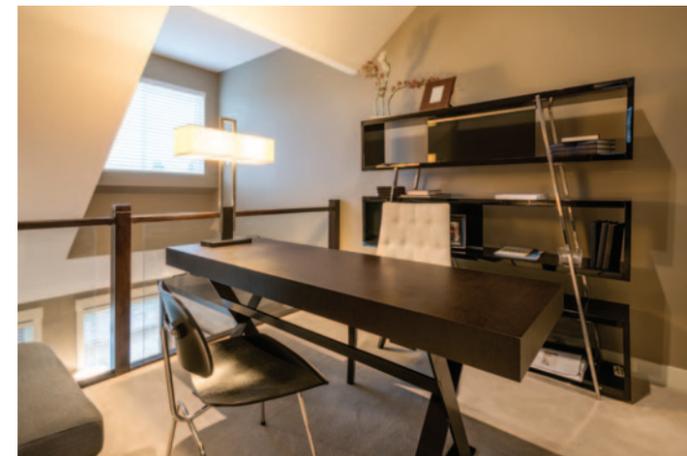
The one feature that is essential to every home office without debate is functionality. Adding furniture to the office is one of the first steps to creating a productive environment. Aside from an executive desk, you need a supported office chair with good lumbar that keeps you comfortable while also looking impressive. Besides your desk and chair, adding a sitting area compliments your work space and makes it more inviting. It also allows a place for visitors to sit comfortably while meeting with you or a comfortable place for you to sit during longer phone calls. And let's be real, it's also the place kids and partners will seek out throughout the day. Better to give them a place to sit and keep busy than to have them standing hovering over you, right?

Because you want your home office to have an official feel without being uncomfortable, you can either include a small sofa or a couple of accent chairs. This also gives you the opportunity to personalize the space even more by mixing up textures. If you have rugs in the office, leather seating can balance out the look. Alternately, if your office has hardwood flooring, place some upholstered pieces in your seating area to soften up the area. The furniture you include will also add a sense of character that you would not otherwise have with just a desk and office chair. It can give you an opportunity to bring your personality and express yourself in a new creative work environment that is just for you.

A highly efficient and highly attractive piece to add in your luxury at-home workspace is a set of built-in bookcases that contain recessed lighting. Having a set of built-ins that extend the length of one of the walls creates a feeling of grandness in the room, and the lighting within the bookcase highlights the pieces featured on it.

While they do provide practical storage, they also offer a place to show off some of your most treasured items like awards or small pieces of art from your travels. A closet

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can provide that elevated look that keeps the flow of the room intact while passively making it feel very custom and well-appointed.

The final feature to add to your lavish home office is ample lighting. While recessed lighting in the bookshelf adds more of an ornate feel, nothing compares to the natural light that floor-to-ceiling windows offer. Your attention to detail when it comes to lighting can make or break the ambience of the space.

No matter how high or low your ceilings, having floor-to-ceiling windows makes your workspace feel that much more extravagant. It is also important to have natural light where you work because it has been proven to improve your mood, provide more vitamin D,

and even reduce eye strain, all of which are important when working. Natural light also helps keep you alert and awake because our bodies and minds are instinctively stimulated by daylight.

Once you've upgraded your windows, don't ruin the look with blinds that hide their gorgeousness. Instead opt for estate shutters that offer a high-end look without a huge investment. These built in window treatments will last much longer than regular blinds and totally transform the look of your space.

Combining nice furniture, good-looking storage, and natural lighting makes all the difference to your new and luxurious at-home office. Just because this room is where many responsibilities are carried out doesn't mean it's a space that has to feel boring or plain. Your workspace instead can be your quiet sanctuary that inspires your ingenuity and productivity. Getting to work never felt so good and close by... ■



renovation service can easily install a built-in bookcase with recessed lighting, giving you that professional look and adding value to your home overall. Your closet renovation expert can also offer unique options like display nooks, glass cabinet doors and file drawer options — just to name a few. A piece like this can take care of many of your office storage needs, while keeping the look of your room sleek and polished.

The benefit to having recessed lighting in the bookcase rather than one or two lamps is that it draws the eye to what you actually want seen instead of the lighting itself. Recessed lighting in your bookcases and the room overall

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Modern Kitchen Cabinetry in Color & Design

Modern Cabinets in Color and Design

If you're thinking it's time to give your kitchen an updated look, this might just be the perfect opportunity. New styles and color options are making kitchen remodeling exciting and fun again. And while trends come and go, fortunately for homeowners, this year's most stylish looks incorporate classic colors and smart designs, making them the perfect way to add function and timeless style to your home. Upgrading your kitchen cabinets can completely transform the look of your kitchen. Conversely, no matter how gorgeous your countertop or your high-end appliances are, nothing spoils the look of a kitchen like out-dated or worn down cabinets. Let's dive into some trending kitchen designs to find stylish kitchen ideas that are sure to stay modern for years to come.

Kitchen Cabinets in Color

If you thought your only choices in kitchen cabinet colors were between white and off-white, get ready for a color adventure. Color is bringing some visual excitement back into our kitchens and you can now have fun with mixing and matching shades for top and bottom cabinets (no they don't have to be the same anymore!). Choosing the right color can make a kitchen truly stand out. Here are some color trends that have taken hold in today's modern kitchen design. Be the envy of the neighborhood with these timeless color choices:

Blue Kitchen Cabinets

You can't go wrong with blue kitchen cabinets and thankfully you can choose from many shades that are currently

being local kitchen remodeling companies. A crisp and modern gray-blue can provide just the right dash of color while not being overly loud or bold. Set against granite or a white quartz countertop can look especially beautiful. If you're looking to go a bit bolder, navy is trending hard right now and looks so elegant against white subway tile backsplashes and pops of brushed gold on hardware and faucets.

Gray Kitchen Cabinets

Many homeowners are opting for grey colored cabinets as a safe alternative to white. Whether it's light gray or deep charcoal, gray color cabinets don't reveal dirt the way white cabinets do and will suit many shades of

countertops. Complement it with bursts of orange and yellow colors - colors that are extremely popular right now - to add that warmth and touch of timely luxury.

Black Kitchen Cabinets

Countless interior designers are predicting black cabinets will be the next big thing in kitchens for 2020 and well beyond. That's good news because black can match well with essentially any countertop or backsplash. More modern than deep brown, black will look perfect with butcher block but just as nice with white subway tiles. If you're worried about black feeling too dark for all your cabinets, go on-trend by just keeping them for the bottom cabinets and matching them with white or a splash of color on your upper cabinets. Whether it's pitch black or charcoal color, black will give an immediate fashionable and glamorous look to your kitchen.

Modern Kitchen Cabinetry Design Trends

The current trend of kitchen design combines the new with classic looks. Many homeowners are shying away from the ordinary builder-grade cupboards and opting for sleek custom cabinets that can keep up with the demands of a busy kitchen. There's plenty of new options to incorporate into your new cabinet remodel.

Open Shelving Designs

Open shelving designs feature shelves without cabinet doors. This is a great way to add visual interest to your cabinets and provides the perfect place to show off your prized dinnerware and decorative pieces. Use



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Image courtesy of Bella Casa Kitchen & Bath.

the open shelves as functional storage spots as well, for larger pots, baskets filled with kitchen gadgets, and to display your cookbook collection. Open shelving also gives an airy feel to a room, so they're great if you're looking to make a smaller kitchen feel a bit more spacious. Especially trendy right now are open shelves that turn a corner, providing clean, long lines that add a very more aesthetic to the space. Consider incorporating an open shelf into an island for a versatile design you'll appreciate when storing your kitchenware.

Glass-Front Cabinets

It's always nice to add an accent cabinet with a glass plate particularly in a corner cabinet. Glass panels come in a wide variety of styles from clear to etched and smoked. More and more kitchen designs however are showing glass-front cabinets being used in great quantity. Just pic-

ture how clean a row of glass-front cabinets will look. New styles are incorporating artistic designs into the mullion (the wood trim you see between panels of glass) to create stunning effects. Don't forget those recessed lights in upper cabinets to truly make the look come alive.

Shaker Kitchen Cabinets

For a clean, traditional look that seems to never go out of style, the Shaker cabinet style is seeing a resurgence. New interpretations of this kitchen classic are providing homeowners with options such as new colors like avocado and peach and more elaborate hardware pairings to dress up their minimalist lines.

Slab Door Cabinets

This cabinet style is gaining popularity. If you're looking for sleek lines and want to venture away from the look of



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Image courtesy of Bella Casa Kitchen & Bath.

Shaker styles, slab cabinets offer that minimalism that lovers of modern look crave. You'll find many now coming with a very glossy wood surface to show off their single plane design. Some slab door cabinet designs do not feature any hardware to keep their look uncluttered, however you can pair them easily with equally modern stainless and brushed steel barrel hardware.

Faye Motsenigos, owner of Bella Casa Kitchen & Bath, who has been remodeling homes in the Lehigh Valley for many years believes, "Whether it's just an island or the entire kitchen, paint colors are a popular trend in kitchens and bathrooms. From subtle to bold and everything in between, painted cabinets are more popular than ever. We are seeing gray, with its versatility, still the number one go to kitchens. Greens and blues are also highly requested as they can tie into any design style depending

on the shade. From mid-century modern to a more stately traditional design, black can also be as subtle on an island and hood for a modern farmhouse feel, to an entire kitchen with brushed gold accents for a contemporary city apartment. The options are endless! Whatever your comfort level is with color, there is something for everyone." ■

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KITCHEN GALLERY PLUS

“Our greatest joy is seeing a customer five years after their remodel and hearing how much they still love the space they created with Kitchen Gallery Plus!” This sounds about right if you know Dan Martino, owner of Kitchen Gallery Plus. His passion for guiding homeowners through their dream remodel process is evident with each project he designs.

Martino has been happily remodeling Kitchens in the Greater Allentown, Bethlehem, and Easton areas for the last 42 years. Just as their name implies, although they may focus on kitchens, they offer everything you need for a complete renovation. Kitchen Gallery Plus also covers bathrooms, home offices, basement bars and so much more!

“Everything from design and consultation, complete renovation or cabinetry for the do-it-yourself person and contractors, we are the one-stop shop for the entire project,” explained Martino.

At the heart of their business is the Kitchen Gallery Plus desire to fully understand their customers’ wants, needs, and concerns. “We truly listen to the client. We provide all the assistance and guidance they need to obtain the project of their dreams. I like to say, we have a solution for every budget, because after four decades in the business, we’re experts in getting you what you want.”

“We are the dream facilitators and make the project fun. I always tell the customer they are the best designer of their kitchen because they have been looking at it for many years. They know what is right and they know what is wrong”, said Martino. “Developing a project to make their dream come to life is like a beautiful puzzle.” For some of us, that puzzle can be quite distressing, but Martino reassures homeowners there’s no reason to be overwhelmed. In fact, he has a step-by-step process for not only making it simple, but a pleasure at the same time.

Your Kitchen Remodel is Personal

“First, I like to go to a client’s home to really get to know their wants and desires for their dream kitchen, bath, home office, or other space,” said Martino. He takes his time to interview the homeowners to fully understand what they are looking to accomplish. This includes asking questions about how they like to cook – are they bakers or chefs? What type of work space suits them? Do they want a double oven, a range hood, cooktop and or an added microwave?”

After Martino establishes their cooking needs, he moves on to the family needs. “Is the kitchen the family gathering center? If so, what types of seating do they prefer?” Martino also accounts for traffic flow by asking if the current layout worked for their needs or if they’d prefer to change the floor plan so that it works with the new model.

Martino also collects information about everything from the families lighting and electrical preferences to their personal style and their design likes and dislikes. “It’s important to me to educate the client on all options so they can make informed decisions.” Beyond those details, the company takes measurements and photos to begin the design process. They also request a realistic budget range so the Kitchen Gallery Plus design team can give a complete vision that fits perfectly within the budget given.

Seek Out Inspiration From Many Sources

Martino advises homeowners that a great place to start their remodel journey is online. “We encourage our

“Now that working from home is the new normal for many, we are designing more home offices than ever before. Having a dedicated space to work instead of the kitchen table helps you concentrate and be more productive.”

– Dan Martino

clients to visit Pinterest, Houzz or any other source for ideas to narrow down what they are looking for.” He also recommends starmarkcabinetry.com as an excellent source for ideas that can be directly applied to a renovation project with Kitchen Gallery Plus. There is also one more important stop to make, their newly remodeled showroom. “We invite them to our beautiful showroom to begin choosing styles and colors from an array of samples while we guide them through every step.”

“Having that guidance is key to a successful project with so many tile, countertop, and backsplash options. The choices are many, but Martino also has the best advice when it comes to sorting out the confusion over your kitchen design decisions. “Some think this task is too overwhelming, but we make it fun. Taking on a dream kitchen, bathroom, or home office project should be an exciting adventure and we get joy from helping our clients make choices they will love for years to come.” ■

RESOURCE

Kitchen Gallery Plus

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ORGANIZING YOUR GARAGE CLUTTER...

Keeping your garage clear of clutter and messes can sometimes feel like an impossible task. It seems to attract every object or knick-knack without a home, creating an obstacle course to your car. And not to mention making it feel like you're going on an archaeological dig when you're just trying to find your grass shears. If this rings true for you, keep reading, and flipping your garage into a tidy, organized space is actually a lot easier than you may think.

Shelving

You were probably expecting this one, but there's so much you can do with shelves that it definitely bears mentioning (and repeating!). Standard metal shelving units on the walls and in all the obvious spots work fine, but there're so many more creative ways to maximize your space. Professional closet organizing companies and specialty garage organizers can help show you the



wide variety of clever garage shelving that's on the market. Best part is, they'll install it too. Corner shelves, for example, allow you to utilize space you may not have even considered before. If you already have some shelving established in your garage, you can even upgrade it a little with some shelf brackets- perfect for keeping cords, wires, and other light objects you can hang out of the way.

Overhead Racks

If you don't have much floor space to work with, try getting creative with how you can use your ceiling space. Mounting overhead racks to keep storage bins in place is a simple and effective fix that basically doubles the amount of room you have to work with. Many of these even have adjustable heights, making it easy to store pretty much anything you need that won't fit on the floor. For those with limited square footage utilizing the space you have on your walls is the best approach to an organized garage. Think coat/tool racks, canvas wall organizers, and tracks to hang bigger tools like rakes and weed whackers. If you have an empty wall, you can also consider installing a pegboard panel, which makes for super convenient storage for tools of all sizes. One of the biggest culprits guilty of taking up more space than needed are bikes and all the accessories that go with them, but there's some really simple fixes for this. You could mount them on the wall, the ceiling, pretty much anywhere you can install a vertical fixture is an option. If you're really feeling fancy, there are some bike hook models that attach to your rafters and have glides that make getting your bikes up and down a breeze. Greg

Ahart, President of Victory Closets says, "When it comes to garage storage, we keep it simple. Get everything off the floor and utilize any open space with easy to use open shelving along with a rail system for bikes and sporting equipment, lawn and garden and other miscellaneous items. This approach keeps it very affordable and with the same end result, which is getting a beautifully, organized garage that will also allow you to park your car in it."

Create a Workspace

Your garage doesn't just have to be a space for storage and your car! Take your hobbies into account when you're reorganizing and redecorating. If you're the handy type, a desk fixture is a classic addition that can save space and reduce so much clutter in the long run. It's also nice and convenient to have an established workspace for yourself where you can focus on any projects you're undertaking. Other creative ideas could be a gardening station, a nook for painting supplies, or even a mini home gym if you have a two-car garage; the sky's the limit.



Flooring Adds The Finishing Touch

There's no rule that says a garage has to be dingy. You can add instant brightness and a clean sheen to any garage with a heavy duty floor paint. Your home remodeling pro or garage expert can easily get this done in no time. This simple upgrade often makes the difference between a garage feeling like a warehouse or a studio workroom. ■



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Business Spotlight

H. Winter Tile & Company, Inc.

Tiling a kitchen or bathroom can transform a room into a beautiful masterpiece, but it can be overwhelming if you don't have the right expert help. There is so much to consider when tiling a new floor, wall or backsplash. From the installation to choosing porcelain or ceramic tile, to what colors go together, having a tile expert's help will guide you to exactly the right aesthetic you are envisioning. Whether you're remodeling your home yourself or working with a contractor, choosing the right tile and tiling tools for your installation is the key to a successful project. At H. Winter Tile & Company, Inc., a premier tile importer and distributor located right in the heart of Lehigh Valley, they have all the tiles and tools you need to do the job right and have your remodel turn out beautifully.

A Long Lehigh Valley History

"We first opened our doors in 1975 and have been providing builders, contractors, and individuals with tools, supplies, and support for 45 years!" says Showroom Manager Kailyn Bachman. Their Allentown showroom is the largest showroom for porcelain and ceramic tile in Lehigh Valley. Not only does their Allentown location position them to perfectly serve all of the Lehigh Valley, but "in addition to serving the Lehigh Valley as a tile showroom, we distribute materials to New York, New Jersey, and Connecticut." H. Winter Tile is an American Society of Interior Designers Industry Partner and they are the go-to tile supplier and distributor for some of the leading builders and contractors in the Lehigh Valley and surrounding areas.

An Array of Services Offered

First and foremost, H. Winter Tile offers a wide selection and large inventory of porcelain, ceramic, natural stone,

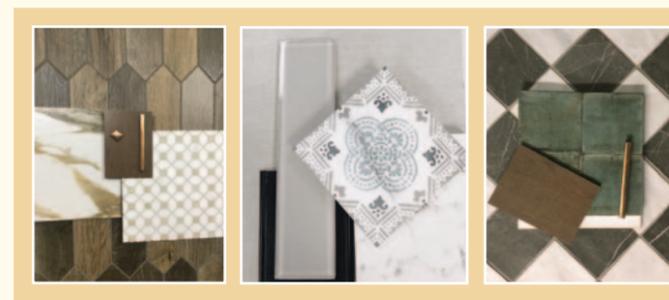


handmade, and glass tile. They distribute tiles from many leading manufacturers of tile and tile products. In addition to offering a wide selection of tiles to choose from, their showroom provides an array of installation vignettes to inspire you in the design process. These vignettes feature numerous tile layouts which will help you formulate ideas for your bathroom, kitchen, and for any room in your home.

Their website also boasts an array of tile colors and combinations that you can peruse for inspiration. H. Winter Tile's showroom consultants are available to help in the tile selection and design phases of your project. They can help you narrow down the options to find the perfect selection for your particular tile installation project.

Along with their large selection of tile, H. Winter supplies all of the tile installation tools for builders, contractors, and do-it-yourself customers. They stock thinset, grout, hardibacker, and everything else you need for any type of tile installation, including underfloor heating systems for your tile installations! Bachman says, "Not only do we work with builders, contractors, and homeowners, but we also work with commercial business owners. We're excited about providing tile to local restaurants, some of which include The Bayou, Queen City BBQ, Wiz Kidz, Daddy's Place, and Oak Steakhouse!"

If you're not sure what you need, H. Winter Tile can assist in calculating what materials you should use for the job and how much you will need. Also, H. Winter Tile's staff is there to offer advice for contractors or individuals installing their own tile. While they do not install tile, they are more than happy to recommend local, quality tile contractors. "Our showroom staff will help you make selections and coordinate your space, while our warehouse staff is happy to offer guidance and answer any technical questions you may have," adds Bachman.



Setting Themselves Apart

"We understand shopping for tile is an upgrade and a more permanent purchase. Tile is an investment in your home, and a big decision. We're here to help you make the best selection for your space, not just a sale. Additionally, whether you're working with a contractor, or starting a DIY project, we're here to offer assistance every step of the



way," says Bachman. H. Winter Tile is unique in that they offer space in their showroom for designers and builders to work with their clients and demonstrate tile color combinations and tile patterns and layouts. They also provide display boards and tile samples so designers and builders can have the convenience of working at their client's location. Bachman says "our reputation is built on quality products and services. Aside from having everything you'd need for your tile project, our staff is trained to help you every step along the way." ■

RESOURCE

H. Winter Tile & Company, Inc.
890 N. Gilmore St., Allentown PA, 18109
610-434-4500
Scheduling Appointments
Monday-Saturday



Image Courtesy of Kleckner and Sons Appliances.

Image Courtesy of Kleckner and Sons Appliances.

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Brand New Kitchen Appliances

Bring More Than Just *Beauty...*

The heart of every home is found in your kitchen. Where there's food, people will gather. And while hosting big parties for family and friends might be less of a priority these days, the kitchen hasn't lost its appeal. In fact, it's become even more essential, pivoting from the entertaining spot to the hub of meal prep and family activity.

In the last few months, many of us have dusted off old family recipes, scoured food blogs for the trending dish of the week and looked for the perfect place to proof our sourdough. Who would have thought even a few months ago we'd want a spot for our breadmaking? But

with all of us staying home more and dining out less, the kitchen is taking on new significance for the utility it can offer to our lives. Less time at school and at work, means more demands on the kitchen to keep our dining options open while we're at home. A key to a kitchen's food prep possibilities lies of course in the capabilities of its appliances. If you're planning on a kitchen remodel soon, consider these stylish appliances to give your kitchen added utility and value.

While most houses contain a microwave, most microwaves aren't as aesthetically pleasing. Typically, the

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microwave is found above the stove, which eliminates the option of having a gorgeous hood as a focal point of a room. Enter the drawer microwave to save the design day. Installing the microwave as a drawer within your kitchen's island is pure genius and actually makes it more useful. With kids home more and doing more of their own cooking, a drawer microwave allows them to lift hot dishes out of the drawer and safely to the coun-

tertop, rather than reaching from above. The same applies for us shorter folks and seniors, who will welcome eliminating the reach. Adding a drawer microwave to your kitchen also gives it an upscale feel, even though it's simply the same appliance technology we'd usually see placed above the stove.

Another way to step up the look of the kitchen is to switch from an electric stove to a gas range. The great thing about gas ranges is that they are freestanding, which gives the freedom of choosing size and options of having six burners or four burners with a griddle in the middle. Either way, there is more cooking space. New

options include a dual oven with both radiant and convection ovens, platinum glass for a sleek look and color options such as cream with gold hardware. Whether you decide to make a big meal on your own or have someone cater, there will be space to create something delicious with the addition of a warming drawer as well.

Any appliance upgrade wouldn't be complete without a smart refrigerator. Not only do they have an elegant style, they are smudge resistant, which keeps them looking nice without having to constantly wipe them down. Aside from it simply looking nice, a smart fridge with a screen allows it to act as a family hub or the home base for the kitchen. Using the screen, you can look up recipes, set times, and play music all from the same place. It allows you to leave reminders for yourself or other family members, as well as create a grocery list. Once the grocery list is created, you can access it from an app on your phone while at the store. Another great feature is the ability to reorder from Amazon by just using the screen. This impressive appliance would be the focal point of any kitchen simply because of the features it presents.

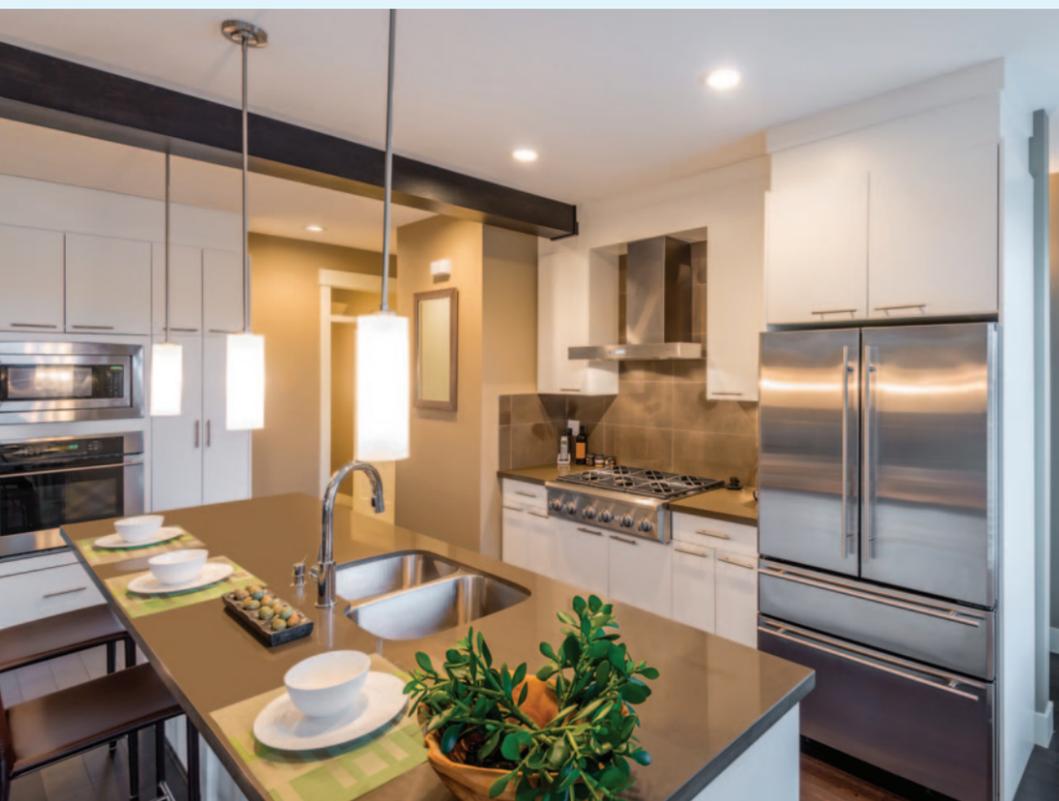


Image Courtesy of Kleckner and Sons Appliances.

The way to finalize the look of your stylish kitchen is by having a built-in wine refrigerator. Like a built-in drawer microwave, this appliance saves space that would otherwise be spent on cabinetry that might turn into junk

When revitalizing the kitchen, it is essential to make sure it stays completely functional. With these appliances, storage and counter space are not a concern. Instead, the purpose lies in making the kitchen a purposeful and

space. Some wine fridges have dual zones- one zone for bottle storage and one zone for serving temperature. When serving wine, it is vital to serve it at the temperature correct for the wine varietal so that it brings out the intended flavor and aroma. A temperature-controlled fridge exclusively for wine ensures a good glass of wine every time. Because the wine refrigerator is smaller than a food refrigerator, it is quieter too. The sleek look and lack of sound won't detract your guests' eyes from seeing the other impressive features of your upscale kitchen.

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well-designed space. Browsing online or in-person, you'll find many high-end options at local retailers and your kitchen remodel contractor may even be able to help with the selection and processing. Get the most out of the gorgeous space you're creating by having the right appliances to fill all your culinary aspirations. ■

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