

THE CONNECTICUT DESIGN GUIDE

2025

DESIGNING YOUR DREAM HOME
THE HEALTHY HOUSE | READY, SET, DECORATE!
DREAMING OF KITCHENS + BATHS
EMBRACING THE OUTDOORS | SHOPPING IN STYLE | THE LIST

FROM THE EDITORS OF
CTC&G

DREAMING OF KITCHENS BATHS

Today's kitchens and bathrooms get high marks for livability with a healthy dose of personal style. We asked the experts to share their thoughts on what trends are gaining traction, what's on the horizon and what's top of mind for clients.



DE GIULIO DESIGN

PHOTOGRAPH BY BELEN AQUINO

TREND SPOTTING

WHAT ARE THE LATEST TRENDS IN KITCHEN DESIGN?

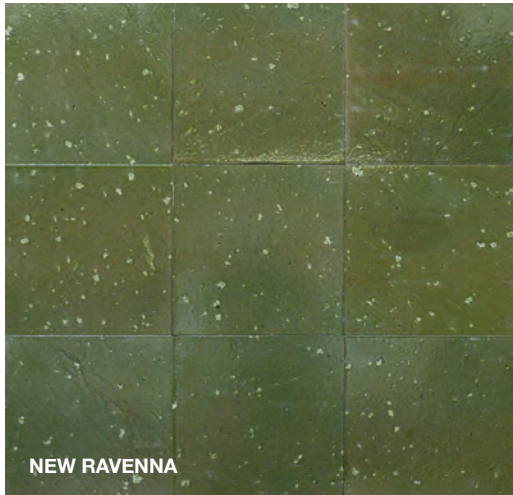
“What’s out is what doesn’t work for you in your house. What’s in is curated design with personal selections guided by design professionals to create timeless spaces in the home. People want things simple, beautiful and uncomplicated.”
—Joseph Najmy, Nukitchens, nukitchens.com

“People are seeking designs that are expressive and interesting, and for that reason the movement toward more transitional kitchens has been very strong. Transitional styling has fewer rules and is more livable than hard-edged (minimalistic) modern and not as declarative as traditional design. This is not to say these two will ever be out of style!” —Mick De Giulio, de Giulio Design, degiuliodesign.com



DESIGN, FABRICE GARSON, BILOTTA KITCHEN & HOME

BACKSPLASH BUZZ



NEW RAVENNA

“LATELY, WE ARE LOVING BACKSPLASHES MADE FROM MOROCCAN HANDMADE Zellige TILE.”
—Peter Deane, Deane, deaneinc.com

“The backsplash is a great place to incorporate texture.”
—Mick De Giulio

“We often match the backsplash with the counter—in quartz or stone—to keep the design seamless.” —Joseph Najmy

HARDWARE FASHION

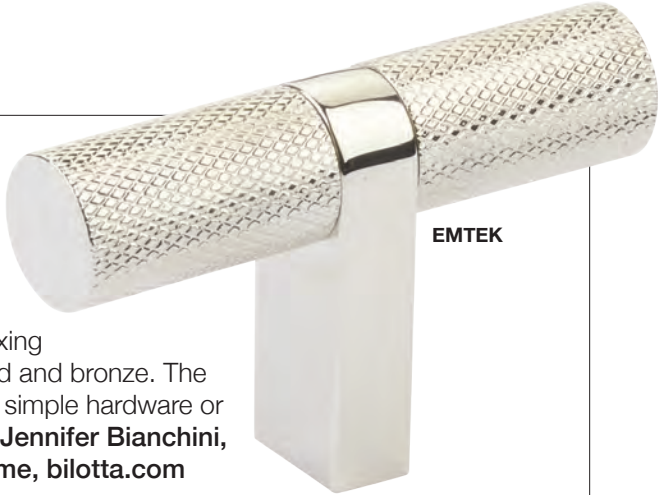
“Combining warm metals like natural brass or silicon bronze—alongside polished stainless and nickel finishes—are beautiful.” —Mick De Giulio

“WE LOVE WHITE BRONZE HARDWARE—IT LOOKS GREAT WITH OTHER FINISHES.”
—Joseph Najmy

“We are seeing the mixing of metals in brass, gold and bronze. The overall trend is toward simple hardware or no hardware at all.” —Jennifer Bianchini, Bilotta Kitchen & Home, bilotta.com

“We often mix two metal finishes in one space. We are seeing the use of burnished brass as a trend away from polished nickel and brighter finishes.” —Christopher Peacock, Christopher Peacock, peacockhome.com

“Cabinetry that doesn’t require hardware is gaining popularity, as well as mechanical ‘touch to open’ doors and drawers.” —Peter Deane



EMTEK

CABINET CHOICES



WOOD-MODE

“I love the opportunity to mix metals and finishes, like satin steel drawer fronts with polished trim for contrast. It can be applied to open shelving, custom hoods, decorative hardware and accent detailing.”
—Peter Deane

“Softer, warmer stain colors. Rift cut white oak is still very popular, but walnut is becoming so as well. People like the rich look of organic wood in its natural tone rather than adding heavy stains.”
—Jennifer Bianchini

“Interesting wood finishes include those that are darker and moody to lighter and more natural looking woods. We are doing hand scraping on many of our cabinetry wood finishes. A noir cerused red oak with hand scraping is beautiful.” —Mick De Giulio

“White oak and other natural woods like walnut with flat-matte finishes. Textural woods combined with soft neutral light shades of paints.”
—Joseph Najmy

“Walnut and oak species mixed with painted cabinetry are still popular choices. For our clients who prefer the all-white kitchen look, we suggest bold and heavily figured marble counters and backsplash options to bring in a bit of interest.” —Christopher Peacock

PHOTOGRAPH BY: (THIS PAGE TOP) STEFAN RADTKE

TOP TRENDS IN THE BATH

VANITY VIBES

“Floating vanities are very popular because they open up the room, visually making bathrooms look more spacious.” —Peter Deane

“WE ARE DESIGNING MORE WOOD VANITIES COMBINED WITH MARBLE TILES AND SHOWER ENCLOSURES AND STRONGER COLORED FIXTURES FOR A SPA-LIKE RETREAT.” —Joseph Najmy

“Mixing metals and metal finishes have made their way into bathrooms.” —Mick De Giulio



SHOWER VS BATH



“BOTH—BUT SEPARATE. IDEALLY IN THE PRIMARY BATH, IT’S GOOD TO HAVE A SOAKING TUB WITH A LARGE COMFORTABLE SHOWER WITH A BENCH AND NICHE FOR SHAMPOOS.” —Joseph Najmy

“Showers are more luxurious now with many offerings. Multiple shower heads, rain showers and body sprays are hallmarks of a luxury bathroom.” —Mick De Giulio



MINIMALISM: IN OR OUT?

“PERSONALIZED DESIGN—EACH BATHROOM IS PLANNED TO THE WAY OUR CLIENTS LIVE. OUR CLIENTS ARE EXPLORING COLOR AND WALLPAPERS. BOLD COLORS AND GEOMETRIC PATTERNS ARE TRENDING RIGHT NOW AS A WAY TO CREATE A UNIQUE AND STYLISH LOOK, WHILE TEXTURED WALLPAPERS CREATE INTERESTING VISUAL INTEREST AND DRAMA, GIVING A POP OF COLOR AND MODERN FLAIR.” —Joseph Najmy

“As bathrooms continue to be seen as a place of refuge and escape from hectic lives, designs also continue to reflect a more spa-like concept. Our overall design approach is more minimalistic. We’re incorporating many smooth, sculptural elements using stone and wood, but we’re also looking for ways to add texture, which lends a more casual and organic vibe to the space. I like suspending cabinets, so everything is off the floor, or doing metal framing elements below.” —Mick De Giulio

“We’re seeing our clients gravitate towards minimalism in luxury bathroom design—fixtures and finishes, such as frameless mirrors, sleek faucets and sensual curves.” —Peter Deane

DANIELLE DEBOE HARPER,
SENIOR CREATIVE STYLE
MANAGER OF MOEN, SHARES

WHAT’S ON THE HORIZON

- 1. VIBRANT COLORS** Exuding “joy” in a space is a priority in design. This means using bold, more vibrant colors such as oranges and purples, or mixing jewel tones to add drama and personality to a space.
- 2. INTRICATE PATTERNS** Incorporating geometric shapes, stripes and checkerboard patterns throughout a bathroom can add depth and rhythm to the space while maintaining elegance.
- 3. TOUCHLESS FIXTURES** With health and wellness remaining top of mind, choosing bathroom fixtures such as faucets and showers with touchless capabilities is a simple way to add an extra level of hygiene and personalization.
- 4. ORGANIC TEXTURES** Natural materials such as wood, stone and plants are not only aesthetically pleasing, but also environmentally friendly—creating more harmonious spaces.
- 5. MIXING METALS** While chrome and brushed nickel are common choices for fixture finishes, we’re seeing matte black and brushed gold continue to grow in popularity. By mixing and matching finishes throughout a space, you can create a more customized, striking aesthetic in the bathroom.

