

HOMESTYLE

HomeStyle | 3-30-17 Edition

Transformative
Design
Trends

Kitchen
Updates
That Stand
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What To
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The Home Design Trend You Need To Know About

With the new year underway, the housing world is buzzing about the next transformative trend in home design and remodeling.

Content supplied by BrandPoint

This year it seems certain the growing trend of mixing and layering materials, something many designers and architects noticed was growing in popularity over the past few years, will dominate the remodeling and design scene.

When it comes to mixing materials, there's no rule book; all you should do is find a combination to match your personality. This might be one of the biggest reasons why people have taken to mixing materials, as it truly allows you to create a home that is uniquely yours.

Bold and innovative

The most immediate effect of mixing materials is that it opens new possibilities and new ways of expression. An example of this can be likened to how hard stone surfaces in a room can be complemented by soft carpet and furniture, or how the highly textured wood on a ceiling can stand in stark contrast to polished stone. Some of the hottest looks today, such as the blending of unfinished industrial materials with modern floors and cabinets, would have been considered outlandish only a few years

ago. Mixing materials gives you greater freedom to create a space that represents your style.

Style on a budget

Of all the rooms in a home, kitchens and bathrooms still get the most attention. Unfortunately, getting that dream kitchen or perfect bathroom isn't always inexpensive.

For those who have uncompromising taste, but are on a budget, mixing materials is the ideal solution. For instance, say you had your

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Mix and layer materials used for surfaces at home to create dramatic, beautiful spaces - this kitchen features High Pressure Laminate on tabletop and cabinets, as well as Solid Surface and Quartz on countertops, island and backsplashes.



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Whether you're undergoing a full-scale kitchen renovation or a simple refresh, design decisions can oftentimes feel overwhelming. Renowned interior designer and artistic advisor to LG STUDIO appliances, Nate Berkus, shares advice for making no-fail design decisions that will stand the test of time.

"Your kitchen is command central in the home. We spend so much of our time here, whether its day-to-day activities with the family or hosting weekend get-togethers with friends. So, making timeless design decisions up front can help create the perfect space that you'll enjoy today and still love in twenty years," Berkus says.

Berkus shares his five top tips for making design decisions that last:

First: Forever finishes

When it comes to finishes, keep things classic. The best options are always the ones that have been around for decades - if they've been popular since the 1920s, there's a good chance they'll

remain a staple for years to come. Think white subway tile, marble countertops, brass pulls and classic painted cabinetry.

Second: Maximize counter and island space

Your countertops are used for much more than preparing food - homework, art projects, family gatherings, late night get togethers - it all happens in your kitchen. You want to maximize counter space, and make sure your island is hardworking. Quick tip - store your small appliances, like toasters and blenders, in your cabinets to free up counter space for all the other things you need it for.

Next: Pick the best appliances

There is truly no better investment for your kitchen than hardworking appliances. It doesn't matter what backsplash you choose - if your kitchen doesn't function well, what's the point? Berkus is a huge fan of the Black Stain-

5 kitchen updates that stand the test of time

less Steel LG STUDIO appliances which he helped design. They feature a pro-style, sophisticated aesthetic with innovative features inside and out to make life easier.

Because that is what smart innovation, and hardworking appliances are about.

Then: Brighten your space

Lighting is crucial in the kitchen and most people underestimate how many they need. You want a mix of overhead lighting, pendant lights and counter-top lighting. Shop your local antiques mall for options - you'll be amazed at how much character a vintage light fixture will add, and they don't have to break the bank.

Lastly: Show your personality in the details

Shop your own home for accessories for your kitchen. It can be as simple as



a framed black and white photograph of your family or unique ceramic bowls and plates you picked up during your travels. Every room in your home should tell your story and feel important - especially the kitchen, where we do so much of our living.

For more design tips and information on LG STUDIO appliances, visit LGStudio.com

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heart set on a marble island and surrounding countertops, but just can't afford marble. Instead, you can choose from a variety of Wilsonart(R) Quartz for the island. Engineered to showcase the erratic veins and patterns prized in marble, quartz also has the advantage of being non-porous, so it won't stain and requires virtually no maintenance. A timeless look that continues to win the popularity contest are nature's neutrals in white, grey and black, offering flexibility to play with bold or demure colorful accents.

You can complement the quartz island by mixing in an even more affordable material like Wilsonart(R) Laminate for the perimeter countertops and vertical applications such as backsplashes and walls. With numerous styles to choose from, you'll be able to create a stunning contrast and dimensionality that will make your room pop. With today's innovation in laminate manufacturing

and fabrication, adding affordable luxury to your kitchen or bath has never been easier.

Utility meets style

Parents, in particular, face a constant dilemma: They want a home with rooms that can stand up to all the abuse toddlers and teenagers can throw at it, but still have it look good. The answer lies in Wilsonart(R) Solid Surface. This material is tough, non-porous, seamless and repairable without sacrificing beauty. With a wide variety of styles replicating stone, you can easily mix it with other material looks to make an intriguing statement.

To explore hundreds of options, visit www.wilsonart.com and start mixing materials to see what's possible in your home.

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What To Know Before Replacing Home Flooring

Content provided by StatePoint



Whether you are building a new house or making upgrades on a current home, there is a lot to consider when it comes to flooring. It's important to keep in mind that the choices available have changed in recent years.

Here are some things to know.

Choose Style

When people choose flooring products, they may be ruling out a large swath of options because of the associations they have with specific materials. For example, you may not associate vinyl with luxury but new products on the market are redefining vinyl flooring, offering fashion-forward high-quality products in striking elegant designs.

Ensure Durability

If you love the look of traditional hardwood floors, consider all of your options. New vinyl technologies are allowing homeowners to get the same elegant style engineered to withstand the wear and tear to which wood is susceptible. For example, Mohawk SolidTech, a luxury vinyl tile, has a thick, rigid construction and planks that look and feel just like real hardwood, but are designed to resist scratches, scuffs and indentation, and maintain stability under heat and temperature change. The planks also fit together to create an impenetrable lock so that the floors remain waterproof and odor-free.

Consider Maintenance

Make sure the flooring you opt for is easy to clean and requires very little maintenance. If you have pets, you may want to consider getting extra protection with a special warranty designed for pet owners, such as Mohawk's All Pet Protection and Warranty, which covers all pets and all accidents. More information can be found at MohawkFlooring.com.

Before making flooring decisions, get savvy and weigh all your current options. These days, it is possible to find flooring products that combine style, durability and low maintenance

Eighty Years of Quality Service Provided by West Essex Building Supply Co.

West Essex Building Supply Co. is a family-run business in the Verona community that has been around for an impressive eighty years. Originally opened by Edward Schneider in 1937, West Essex Building Supply Co. remains at its original location; 40 Depot Street in Verona, NJ. Four family generations later, the industry and products have changed greatly, but the quality service provided by West Essex Building Supply Co. has remained the same.

"It's been a great family business," says current owner, Chip Schneider, grandson of Edward Schneider. Chip Schneider inherited ownership of West Essex Building Supply Co. back in 1991, after having "grown up around the business" and being taught by his father, Robert Schneider and his uncle, Richard Schneider. A local boy from Caldwell, NJ, Chip Schneider moved first to New Hampshire and then to Colorado before coming back to the family business in 1988. Schneider currently runs West Essex Building Supply Co. with his sister, Kim Conley. Schneider and Conley are joined by their sons, John Schneider and Joe Conley Jr., the fourth generation of Schneider men to work at West Essex Building Supply Co.

When asked how the business has changed, Chip stated: "The whole industry has changed," adding, "We supply more residential neighborhoods. The biggest change is that old decking material has been replaced by composite decking, which is maintenance-free and comes in many colors." In addition to new decking materials, West Essex Building Supply Co. also has new Andersen Windows and Doors which they deliver and install, as-is or custom-size, along with a plethora of building materials and hardware supplies. West Essex Building Supply Co. has a lumber yard on site, a hardware store, and a showroom for displaying Marvin Windows

and Doors, Anderson Windows and Doors, Therma Tru doors as well as many other new products.

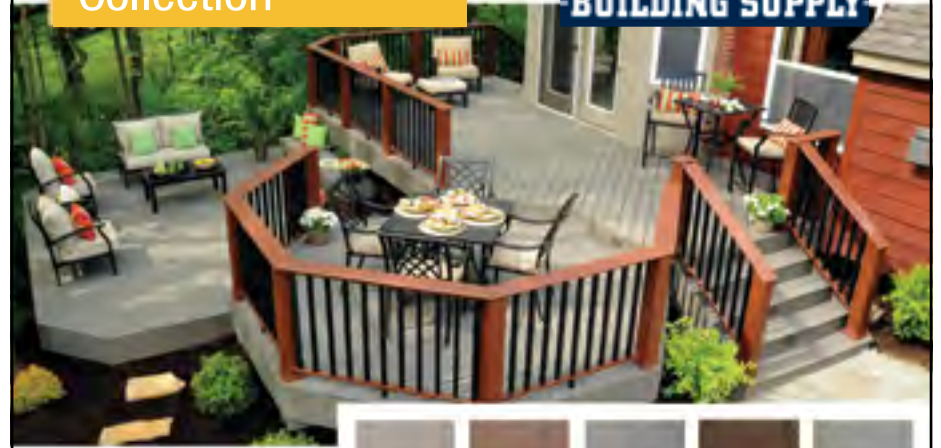
One aspect of the business that has not changed, however, is the staff at West Essex Building Supply Co., all of whom have been a part of the team for twenty to thirty years each. "We must be doing something right," Schneider laughed as he explained that even the delivery drivers have stayed with the business for more than twenty years.. Schneider's light-hearted demeanor continued as he half-joked that the "minimal delivery charge" and friendly service from his delivery staff is well-worth the investment and "much easier than struggling to fit five panels of sheet rock onto the roof of your car." Schneider emphasized the friendly and knowledgeable staff as one of the store's most valuable assets.

West Essex Building Supply Co. is "focused on servicing our customers with the best quality products at a very competitive rate," asserts Schneider, who made the important distinction that high quality products do not always mean high prices. Schneider insists that even as a family-owned business, West Essex Building Supply Co. has always provided competitive pricing. When asked about the future, Schneider explained that he's been to many seminars lately and that the economic forecast looks promising for the next few years. "We look forward to many years to come," says Schneider.

Eighty years of successful operation and quality service is certainly a feat worth celebrating. West Essex Building Supply Co. plans to do so by hosting a barbeque on Friday, June 2nd of this year on site where vendors will have booths set up and representatives waiting to answer questions. Schneider invites any interested parties to attend, grab a bite to eat, see the new products available and join in the celebration.



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