

Kitchen Trends for the New Year

Welcome to 2011! The beginning of a new year brings along with it many time honored traditions like making resolutions, starting with a fresh slate, implementing new ideas and prognosticating about the year ahead. What does 2011 hold in store for us all? You'll find hundreds of polls and articles on the web describing what is "IN" and what's on its way "OUT" for the year ahead. Below you'll find our take on what we feel are the "hot" trends to consider when renovating your kitchen this year.

What do people generally want?

Organized, comfortable, open, warm, homey and inviting kitchens
Visual contact with an adjoining family room, a large window allowing you to enjoy the outside view, a peninsula or island for children to do homework – close to mom or a desk area with a computer. Removing part or an entire wall, moving a doorway or window allows for lots of exciting options. After only 3-4 days into the project, homeowners realize what a great decision they've made.

Cabinets?

Traditional is still the most popular in our area. Shaker is making a strong resurgence with Contemporary a distant third

Finishes?

Maple, birch and cherry wood with a medium natural, dark natural, glazed or painted white finish; some with two-tone cabinets

Flooring?

Hardwood with a polyurethane finish for great protection, ceramic and porcelain tile are most popular and especially beautiful in a random pattern

Countertops?

Granite is still #1 with quartz a close 2nd. If semi-annual sealing is a bother, use the quartz. Solid surface is a strong third but lacks the shine that intrigues many. Limestone, concrete and tile seen to be a lot more bothersome. The heavy work is done here – choose wisely

Backsplash?

Tile with glass or metal accents are the trend, also vertical patterns or accent areas.

Sinks and Faucets?

Stainless is still popular to match the stainless appliances – big sinks are desirable or a 2nd prep sink if space allows – nearly all are undermount. Pullout faucets in brushed nickel, stainless and bronze

Cabinet Features?

#1 – Large pull out drawers for pots and pans #2 Pantry space #3 Tray bases #4 Recycle waste base cabinets #5 spice rack options

Lighting?

Recessed lighting, undercabinet lighting, pendant lighting at the island – beautiful options

Extras?

Crown mouldings at the ceiling, lip moulding to hide undercabinet lights, interesting hood options, decorative accents, cabinets to match for the family room or table, chairs or stools to match the cabinets

Hardware?

This is the jewel of the cabinet – be daring!

The latest Remodeling 2010-2011 Cost vs. Value Report, even in these recovering times, reports a kitchen remodel will bring you a return of up to 72.8% on your investment.

We can do all your kitchen renovations in 4-6 weeks from start to finish. Remember to allow yourself plenty of decision making time – it is so exciting! Stop in our showroom – we have lots of wonderful things to see! You can also visit us online at www.clarkremodeling.com Clark Renovations Inc. Sue Clark