

home design guide

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Kitchen & Bath Design ideas for your home

Kitchens and bathrooms are two of the most important rooms in a home so don't miss the opportunity to design these spaces right. Recent buyer preference surveys reveal that they want better efficiency in the design of these spaces and that they prefer the quality of space over the quantity of space - especially with trends toward "right-sized" plans. Consider the following design trends for your kitchen and bathrooms.

Kitchen Trends & Design Ideas

New home (production homebuyers) are trending toward "right size" floor plans and making the best use of floor space. Gen Y and boomers are looking for different attributes; Gen Y buyers want energy efficiency and boomers are looking for aging-in-place and accessibility options.

- With the downturn in the economy, more families eat out less and cook more at home. Buyers prefer one "everyday eating area" over a formal dining room.
- Buyers also desire a partially separated kitchen, but visually open to the family room and the outdoors, with windows for plenty of natural light.
- According to NAHB Economics and Housing Policy Group, 80% of buyers prefer island work areas.
- Remember the work triangle, all three sides should add up to 26' for maximum convenience.
- Tall upper cabinets are being replaced with inexpensive shelves while creating a modern design statement.
- Thin, full-height, multiple sliding-drawer pantries save space and result in more usable countertop surfaces that are less cluttered.

Bathroom Trends & Design Ideas

Buyers are willing to exchange the features they don't need with features they do need, but with better quality. Due to right-sizing floor plans, seldom-used soaker tubs are less popular and being replaced with a larger shower.

- In the master bathroom, trends are moving toward sensible and practical design - designing for needs over luxurious wants. His and hers vanities and the enclosed commode are still preferred.
- Secondary bathrooms are moving toward Jack-and-Jill style, with double sinks, private water closet and ample towel and tissue storage.
- Water saving features, low flow shower heads and dual-flush toilets are becoming standard fixtures.

Do you have questions about home design or remodeling?



Contact Tony at tweremeichik@canin.com or visit his company's website at www.canin.com. Years of research in custom home design, remodeling and home building has led Tony

Weremeichik, Principal of Canin Associates' Architectural Design Studio, to be a strong advocate for home buyers and home owners to get the best design and construction value for their money. He leads clients and builders through a well-orchestrated design process that provides his clients with the utmost attention and creative design solutions.