

MAY 2024

THE MORNING JOURNAL

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Keep Up with Kitchen Trends

(Family Features) If you're considering a kitchen renovation, you've probably heard cautions about avoiding overly trendy designs that can diminish your home's value and limit its appeal to future buyers. That's sound advice, but many of this year's trends are relatively neutral and have long-term staying power.

Kitchen upgrades are typically all about making practical updates to meet the needs of a family. The key to smart design is incorporating functional elements a family requires while striking a balance between style and trends that quickly become outdated.

Before you dive into a kitchen project, consider these on-trend design recommendations from the experts at Wellborn Cabinet.

Add Health-Focused Features

As the hub of nutrition, it's no surprise wellness design features are making their way into the kitchen. Some examples include appliances with air frying or steaming features, and double ovens are appearing in more homes, making home meals for the family easier to manage. Also look for technology that simplifies meal planning and managing your pantry inventory, as well as features that regulate food storage temperatures more precisely, including during power outages.

Shift Back to Wood Stains

Painted cabinets had their moment, but the latest designs are revealing a movement back toward warm wood grains, specifically oak. As trends continue to shift toward embracing natural elements, as well as exploring diverse color palettes, cabinet manufacturers are constantly innovating to meet the demands of consumers and design professionals alike.

To elevate contemporary cabinetry design, Wellborn Cabinet introduced captivating finishes that celebrate natural materials and textures.

Inspired by the highly desired white oak at a more accessible price point, Boardwalk offers a breath of fresh air, allowing the unique oak wood grain to take center stage. The striking finish of Peppermill introduces a versatile darker brown hue with a subtle gray undertone, adding depth, dimension and sophistication. If you're not quite ready to fully embrace natural wood tones, Alabaster may be a perfect alternative; this hue provides the timeless elegance of neutral white.

Dedicate Space for Beverages

Food prep may be a mainstay in functional kitchen design, but a growing number of homeowners are calling beverages a close second with the addition of built-in coffee bars or smoothie stations and specialized storage for beer and wine. Countertop or supplementary nugget ice makers are another example of trending kitchen accessories that reinforce a growing focus on beverages for all occasions.

Go for Contemporary Cabinetry

Your kitchen's cabinet doors play an important role in defining your design aesthetic. Consider Wellborn's wide variety of door styles, several of which have been redesigned to support the trend toward a simpler, smaller rail that's in favor among designers and homeowners alike. With softer, more up-to-date appearances, they feature eased profiles to produce simple, straight, clean appearances. Options like Breckenridge and Ridgebrook offer updates to the modified shaker style with a clean, modern, less clunky aesthetic. Made of quality, solid wood, they feature a reversed raised center panel to coordinate with a variety of design styles.

Embrace the Middle Ground

Kitchen islands are hardly a new design element, but an increasing number of homeowners are making them a major focus of their renovations. A kitchen trends study by Hou-



zz revealed 42% of homeowners are opting for islands that are 7 feet long or more. That's extra prep space, but also more room for casual seating or socializing while hosting. Also gaining popularity are double islands for double the workspace.

Skip Bland Backsplash Tile

The wall space between your countertops and upper cabinets may not amount to much, but it's a sure place to make a style statement. This year's designers are saying farewell to stark white subway tile backsplashes. Instead, nature- and earth-inspired tones are trending. You can still use subway tile but consider a variation from the traditional stacked design. Texture is another option for modernizing your backsplash; think hand-crafted tiles or earthy textures but take care to avoid overly busy patterns.

Find more inspiration for your kitchen remodel at wellborn.com.

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Choosing the RIGHT Gutter Guard

Gutter Cover Company

With all the different choices available for gutter protection, most homeowners want to know which product works the best and can be installed at a reasonable price. Here are some helpful tips about what to look for when choosing a gutter cover and who to call to install it.

A good gutter cover needs to perform in certain areas to be successful:

- Keep out debris like small leaves, needles, spinners, seed pods, and roof shingle grit.
- Handle heavy amounts of rainwater without overflowing.
- Must be wind resistant and strong enough not to “cave-in” under heavy snow loads.
- Must not require any trips up the ladder to maintain performance.
- Cannot have vertical openings like screens or filters that can clog easily.

Historically, most filters and screens need to be cleaned or replaced eventually and that defeats the purpose of buying gutter protection. Considering the fact that the gutter is one of the filthiest areas on the home, the screen/filter may not be a permanent solution to climbing the ladder.

Hiring the right company to install the cover correctly is very important.

Try calling a company that’s focused on gutter protection only. This way you can feel confident that all of the business’ attention is being dedicated to the task at hand.

Locals have been calling The Gutter Cover Company because of the long proven track record and specializing in gutter protection.

The Gutter Cover Company has been installing Gutter Topper in Northeast Ohio for over 26 years.

They’re a family-owned local business that uses their own people who are properly trained to install their products.

With an obsessive attention to details and professionalism, they have an A+ rating with the Better Business Bureau and Google reviews

Gutter Topper is actually manufactured right here in Ohio and made to perform in Ohio weather. It is a smooth, solid aluminum cover

that has no holes or gaps on top. A sloped self-shedding design, prevents spinners, pine needles, shingle grit, or seed pods from clogging the gutter.

Independent product Testing by PRI Asphalt Technologies showed that Gutter Topper can handle heavy downpours up to 22 inches of rain per hour and 110 mph winds.

A lifetime transferable performance warranty gives you confidence that the gutters will remain free-flowing forever.

Gutter Topper can be installed over the existing gutters and each installation includes cleaning, tightening, re-sealing, and properly aligning your gutters. New seamless gutters are also available.

For the winter months, The Gutter Cover Company also offers a safe and effective way to stop big icicles and ice damming with HEATED gutter

protection.

This is not the old-fashioned zig-zag roof wires. An optional add-on product called Heater Cap can be installed with or without Gutter Topper which gently heats the gutter area with a self-regulated heat cable. An aluminum plate then covers the cable which protects it, hides it, and helps spread the heat to a larger area. Controls are even located inside the warmth of your home.

Heater Cap is perfect for problem areas like doorways or areas that have a history of water backup. It also can be installed on most existing gutter covers.

“Our staff at The Gutter Cover Company has the knowledge and experience to solve your gutter problems once and for all,” said Jim Carbone, the owner of Gutter Cover.

“We would like to have an

opportunity to show you what makes our products stand above the competition. Because we are a local business, and all of us are from Northeast Ohio, we treat our customers like neighbors. Our free estimates are punctual and professional, but always friendly and casual.”

Schedule a free estimate by May 31, 2024 and receive a \$300 discount on the purchase of either Gutter Topper or Heater Cap by mentioning this offer.

Additional discounts are available for Seniors and Veterans.

For more information call (440) 366-0688. View short videos of Gutter Topper and Heater Cap at:

www.gutterguard1.com.

Jim Carbone is the owner of Gutter Cover Company

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