

THE BEST OF
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KITCHEN & BATH PLANNING GUIDE 2012



Design a better bath

INSIDE: Budget-minded remodels • Secrets to a sensational kitchen • Water-saving solutions
How to install appliances • Healthy cabinets

U.S. \$9.99/Canada \$10.99



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www.finehomebuilding.com
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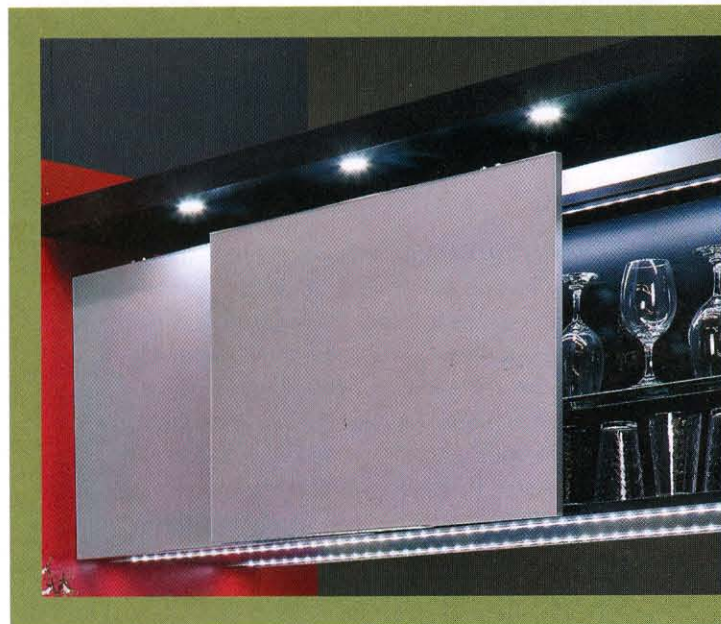
DISPLAY UNTIL SEPTEMBER 30, 2012

COUNTERTOPS THAT ERUPT WITH COLOR

PYROLAVE LAVA STONE SURFACES

- Manufactured by Pyrolave USA
- www.pyrolave.com
- Cost: \$250 to \$350 per sq. ft.

P yrolave, the world's largest manufacturer of enameled lava stone, has been importing its product line to the United States since 1993. Quarried from volcanic craters in Auvergne, France, the lava stone is colored and glazed, then fired at temperatures exceeding 1800°F to create a high-quality, low-maintenance surface that withstands high temperatures, acids, and corrosive products. This resilience makes Pyrolave surfaces suitable for kitchen and bathroom counters, tabletops, swimming pools, fireplace facades, and outdoor living spaces. Pyrolave is available in 16 glossy and 16 matte stock colors, but it also can be custom-colored to match any interior. To eliminate seams, the stone can be sculpted in up to 10-ft. lengths.



Sleek sliders

FRONTINO HARDWARE

- Manufactured by Häfele
- www.hafele.com/us
- Cost: \$1930 to \$2250, depending on size and configuration

H äfele's new Frontino hardware improves the look and functionality of sliding doors by allowing them to glide alongside each other when open and to sit neatly flush when closed. Sliding doors can help to maximize space in kitchens and baths, where the operation of hinged doors can get in the way. Because they provide easier access to cabinet interiors and can remain open during meal preparation, sliding doors also can be a good choice for aging-in-place installations or for homeowners relying on wheelchairs or walkers. Another plus: Frontino's quiet operation promises no more slamming doors.

BATHROOM FIXTURES WITH A DIFFERENCE

VICTORIA + ALBERT ENGLISHCAST FIXTURES

- Manufactured by Victoria + Albert
- www.vandabaths.com
- Cost: Barcelona tub, \$5500; Barcelona sink, \$790

Lighter than stone or cast iron and more elegant than acrylic, Victoria + Albert's line of Englishcast tubs and sinks is made from a blend of finely ground volcanic limestone mixed with high-performance resins. Englishcast fixtures are manufactured in one piece, do not flex or creak, and are hand-finished. Naturally white with a high-gloss, easy-to-clean finish, the exterior can be painted, faux-finished, or stenciled. Tubs are drillable for customized faucet locations, and internal scratches can be polished out. Shown: the Barcelona tub and sink.

