

h&d



BLACK STAINLESS STEEL:

Step aside stainless steel, a darker version is the new "it" finish in kitchen appliances. Black stainless steel is showing up in the latest kitchens, from the fridge to the dishwasher. Frigidaire Gallery launched a new suite of smudge-proof black stainless steel appliances at KBIS. The eight products include refrigerators, dishwashers, wall ovens, gas ranges and over-the-range microwaves. Other standout products include Zephyr's black stainless steel ventilation range hoods made with titanium coating, and Sharp's black stainless steel microwave drawer in a low-profile bold design. To match this metallic darkening of kitchen appliances,

Amerock created a new gunmetal finish available in several of its new hardware collections including the farmhouse cup pulls in the Ashby line.





DESIGN IT YOUR WAY:

Circling back to this anti-trend idea of expressing personal style, any product line that provides customization is a big hit in the marketplace. Customizable products that caught my attention include Atlas Homewares new Tableau Collection of hardware that encourages the mixing and matching of two shapes, round or square, and four finishes within four different sizes for custom horizontal or vertical configurations. The collection also dovetails perfectly with the mixed metals design technique — pairing nickel with brass and gold, black and chrome, or polished chrome with champagne gold. Design experts recommend working with two or three finishes to pull off the look. Aim for one dominant finish and use smaller amounts of secondary metals to accent it.



For color customization in the kitchen, Ruvati debuted the Ibiza faucet that comes with three silicone sleeves that are interchangeable. Additional colors are available for purchase and include Ocean Blue, Navy Blue and Coral Pink. BlueStar appliances come in more than 750 colors and custom hues including an oven in Pantone's 2017 Color of the Year, *Greenery*, paired with white-painted knobs. In 2017, designer color choices in kitchen products are in big demand by consumers wanting more creative freedom.



BlueStar appliance in Pantone's 2017 Color of the Year, Greenery

