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HOUSE OF ROHL Satin gold is a popular finish at the moment, with Storm explaining, "People want things that aren't as common place." houseofrohl.com

Visual Cleanliness

Hygiene remains top of mind for homeowners, who seek not only unique faucets but also finishes that are easy to keep clean.

by Emily Blackburn

IT IS perhaps too obvious to say that, after two years and counting of pandemic life, we have never been so conscious of our hygiene as we are today. With a remodeling market that is still showing strong growth and only some easing in the months to come, kitchen remodels remain one of the top projects homeowners are investing in.

The faucet in particular plays a pivotal role in providing functionality as well as beauty to the space it inhabits. As one of the most used appliances in the home, the faucet is more than just a hand-washing station. It also functions as a centerpiece of the cooking sphere, part of the cooktop-refrigerator-sink triangle.

Thinking Clean

Farmhouse chic has been in style long enough to be a familiar refrain in aesthetic trends reports, and it shows no sign of going away any time soon. Bill Strang, president of TOTO Americas and

Sustainable Minds advocate, says, “It’s really very straightforward and simple, and very energy conscious, very sustainable in its design and theme. What we see on the faucet side are designs that are making the opportunity for that kind of experience to be more successful.”

With cleanliness top of mind for homeowners, Justin Storm, group project manager for U.S. House of Rohl says, “Visual cleanliness is translating into the products that are being produced. People want something that is not only easy to clean, but also lends itself to clean lines and aesthetics.

“The pandemic caused us to be a lot more conscientious of our health,” Storm adds. “But we also became more conscious of our spaces. Now that people are spending more time at home and have

“OVER THE LAST FEW YEARS MANY OF US HAVE LEARNED TO COOK AND THE INNER CHEF IN US HAS INSPIRED US TO BRING THE LOOK OF A PROFESSIONAL KITCHEN INTO OUR HOMES.”

Nicholas Rindt, Kohler

time to evaluate what type of environment they want to spend time in, people are realizing they want a clean, easy, simplified lifestyle.”

Under the House of Rohl brand are five distinct brands that cover a range of price points and aesthetics. The Eclissi collection of kitchen faucets from Rohl projects a clean and modern aesthetic, accompanied by a unique handle with inner and outer circles imitating the meeting of sun and moon.

From TOTO, Strang emphasizes, “Kitchen design themes are becoming a little more, what I would call ‘brick to linear.’ We’re seeing some very sharp angles, and there’s an opportunity for using new colors and shapes. Again, that sort of farmhouse look and style: very clean lines, very clean aesthetics.”

Jean-Jacques L’Henaff, leader of LIXIL Global Design, Americas, based in Piscataway, N.J., agrees. “Products with simple, sleek lines are popular among customers to achieve a timeless design



throughout their homes that will withstand the ever-changing trends and never be out of style.”

In addition to simplifying the kitchen space, homeowners have learned a love for cooking during the pandemic and want a sink space to reflect this newfound hobby. According to Nicholas Rindt, director of product for Kohler, “Semi-professional kitchen faucets are more popular than ever. Over the last few years many of us have learned to cook, and the inner chef in us has inspired us to bring the look of a professional kitchen into our homes.”

KOHLER “Kitchen faucets are pivotal in providing functionality as well as beauty to the space,” Rindt says. “Ranging from subtle to statement pieces, we’ve seen substantial growth in our touchless and connected kitchen faucets.” | [us.kohler.com](https://www.us.kohler.com)



ISENBERG Velox K.1800 dual-spray stainless steel two handle pull-down kitchen faucet is available in a wide range of colors, including rust brown, crimson and navy blue. isenbergfaucets.com

Go for the Brass

Among the chrome and nickel finishes, which Strang calls “mainstays” in the market, and especially for TOTO, newer trends are seeing the rise of matte black as well as satin gold and brass.

“People want things that aren’t as commonplace,” Storm explains. “Especially designers want to be leaders in the design space, and fewer homes are going to have [gold or brass] finishes.”

“Satin brass is a gorgeous finish,” L’Henaff agrees. “It’s very popular right now and stands out amongst the rest of the space.”

“Now, this isn’t your grandparent’s brass,” Strang says. “This has got a kind of really interesting color and texture to it so that when you look at it, it has some good depth. Certainly you want to make sure that in your kitchen, you’ve got an accent piece that is kind of bespoke. You want a faucet that’s going to highlight the countertops and the flat single basin sink and all the bits and pieces that went into the kitchen design.”

In addition to the more classical colors of chrome, gold and brass being offered, some companies such as Isenberg are offering more creative and colorful options. Isenberg’s Velox K.1800 model is available in 20 colors, ranging from sky blue, army green and deep red to more neutral options like distressed black, steel gray and dark tan, with custom shades available.



From Brizo, the new Odin Semi-Professional Kitchen Faucet is available in seven finishes, including two lever options—metal and wood. The ability to personalize and customize the kitchen space and make it unique to the homeowners’ design preferences is paramount.

Untouched Technology

Though touchless and automatic faucets have been a mainstay in the commercial market for about 30 years, installation and use in the consumer home has taken off only in recent years.

“We’ve seen substantial growth in our touchless and connected kitchen faucets,” Rindt says. “This technology optimizes the space for a hygienic

Kitchen



Semi-neutral finish refreshes space

TRUE RESIDENTIAL launches Sage, a refreshing gray/green finish that recalls the alluring pigment of the perennial sage plant. Exalted for its connection to nature, the hue is noted as a chromatic expression of wisdom, growth and renewal, and it also marks the brand's continued foray into the world of neutrals. Sage follows the recent launch of Juniper, a deep blue/grey hue that exudes a soothing aura. Sage can add a bit of spice to any design scheme while infusing the space with a refreshing ambience. true-residential.com



Faucet brightens kitchen with colorful hues

ISENBERG brings a modern, industrial vibe to the kitchen with the Velox K.1800 model and its graceful high-arched spout and two minimalist-inspired levers. Colorful finish options amp up the drama with 20 different shades to choose from, ranging from sky blue, army green and deep red to more neutral options such as distressed black, steel gray and dark tan. In fact, the design team at Isenberg is capable of creating custom-colored faucets in nearly any imaginable hue. | isenbergfaucets.com

Cabinet hinge simplifies installation process

BLUM eases installation with the clip-on technology and three-dimensional adjustability of its Compact Clip. Designed specifically for face frame cabinets, the Compact Clip hinge allows doors to be easily removed and reattached to speed up processes either on the assembly line or during field installation. It has integrated soft-close Blumotion that is available in a range of overlays. Add angle restriction clips to keep the doors from bumping into adjoining surfaces. blum.com



Wall oven offers small-space convenience

The **WHIRLPOOL** 24" Smart Wall Oven is a small-space oven that still provides the flexibility to cook full-size meals on multiple racks at once. With nine different cooking modes such as broil and bake, homeowners can make all their family favorites within the 2.9 cubic feet capacity oven. Homeowners can also use a smartphone to get dinner started by remotely preheating the oven or using a compatible device to adjust cook time and temperature with a voice command. whirlpool.com

Refrigerator enables greater range of control

BERTAZZONI celebrates its 140th anniversary with the introduction of French Door Refrigeration offerings, now available in the company's three styles: Professional, Master and Heritage. The new 36" Freestanding French Door Refrigerator series is available in two models, XV and XT, for the premium and super-premium segments. The XT model features a Quattro Temp Zone Drawer, which provides a greater range of control with four preset temperatures for precision. us.bertazzoni.com

