

Leading the Kitchen/Bath Design Trend: Elegance Extraordinaire

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BY LINDA JENNINGS Kitchen & bath specialist

DRAMATIC DECORATING involves well-thought-out spaces, a discerning eye, and choosing profound fixtures that demand the attention of the space while also offering wellness benefits. Creating an uplifted space allows you to feel free and relaxed, a place you never want to leave.

Elegance encompasses more than just a price tag; it's a style grounded in large-scale furnishings kept very clean, well-appointed and thought out. It's a stylistic vernacular combining function and comfort, quality and a smooth harmony throughout.

Few things in life are as time-consuming as designing a kitchen and bath renovation; it's easy to get overwhelmed. The goal is a sophistication to the simplicity in the design. Maximize the power of the home with design choices that provide the greatest sense of welcome and comfort. Look for products and materials that harmonize with your own personal style. Go for the epic statement that truly makes a space unique.

Here are some of the latest products and dreamiest inspirations offering a fresh take on creating a serene and restful vibe — an oasis of calm.

Pleated Perfection

Featuring a unique "pleated" exterior, MTI Baths' Bowie Collection has expanded to now include a freestanding pedestal sink. This textural masterpiece is fit for a king, and adds unexpected texture to the bath. Developed in collaboration with Source, a prestigious Atlanta-based design firm, the Bowie pedestal sink measures 36-inches-tall by 19-inches in diameter

and is crafted from a proprietary SculptureStone material.

This mostly organic blend of natural minerals and resins mimics the look and feel of molded stone, and is made by hand in the United States. The Bowie pedestal sink is available in a soft matte white finish or hand-polished deep gloss. Add unexpected color to the bathroom with a choice of exterior colors including vibrant options such as sapphire blue, terracotta and onyx.

Granite Composite Workstations

Ruvati recently introduced its stunning epiStage Series Kitchen Sinks. These remarkable sinks combine the beauty and color options of granite composites with the impressive practicality of the workstation design. Crafted in Italy, the epiStage sink is an elegant choice for the kitchen. It is constructed of 80-percent crushed granite along with proprietary resins to form an exceptionally durable, nonporous surface with the look and feel of natural stone.

Perfect for those who want to venture beyond stainless steel, this series comes in a range of hues, including midnight



black, espresso brown and urban gray. In addition, each epiStage sink is colored all the way through for a rich, consistent look that will never fade or stain and is easily maintained for lasting beauty.

Integrated ledges along the front and back accommodate the included accessories that slide into place when needed. Each epiStage sink comes with a solid composite cutting board with a beautifully textured finish, a foldable drying track with stainless-steel bars, and a food-safe silicone grid to protect the bottom of the sink.

Large-Scale Drama

Add some drama to your front door with the Scottsdale Grip-Lever Multipoint Entry set from Hardware Renaissance. This innovative solution for an entry set has scale and impact on doors that normally can only take 10-inch to 12-inch backplates with levers.

Multipoint locking doors are mostly used for patio doors, but have gained popularity in certain areas as they are more secure systems. The choice of hardware is usually quite limited though — nothing exciting. Enter the brand's larger-scale entry with a grip on the outside. The grip has the same design as the lever, giving it a seamless look, while the lever actually operates as a normal handle.

English Warmth

With the style of a sink stand and the added advantage of a built-in towel warmer, the Heated Washstand from Sterlingham Co. brings the luxury of a warm towel right to your fingertips. This new artisan-quality stand also has the added benefit of being energy efficient — it runs on nearly the same amount of electricity as a light bulb, so you can have warm towels with the flick of a switch all year round.

With an English Edwardian style, the new Heated Washstands are crafted



from solid brass and come in either a wall-mount, two-leg washstand with two heated towel warmer rails, or a wall-mount, four-leg washstand with three heated towel warmer rails. Custom sizes also are available along with a variety of foot styles.

Standard finishes include polished brass, polished chrome, polished or matte nickel, antique gold, copper and various shades of bronze with optional distressing. An unflagging commitment to quality is an important part of the company's culture, which is manifested by the two-year full replacement guarantee that comes with each warmer.

Works of Art

The Venti20 from Gessi captures the essence of the Roaring Twenties, drawing inspiration from that remarkable era to bring the spirit of the age to the modern world. In the Venti20 Collection, elegantly detailed profiles pair with simple, pure lines to work together as a functional, contemporary work of art. The meticulous workmanship of the handles and at the base of the fixtures together with fluted bodies recall a classic style reimagined for a new era.

Venti20 includes mixers for basins, baths and showers, and genuine furnishings including freestanding tubs, washbasins and wall-hung bidets, and a full range of accessories to enhance the expressive, creative capacity of our



personal spaces. Venti20 designs are available in an extraordinary selection of finishes respecting the real colors of the materials used, such as aged bronze and antique brass to modern chrome and brushed black metal options.

Simply Sculptural

Inspired by modern architectural design, Karo brings a bold simplicity to the bathroom with its one-piece sculptural toilet. The Karo toilet offers exceptional comfort and performance, including a chairheight bowl with elongated dimensions, a premium soft-close lid and super-quiet flush mechanism.

Featuring Icera's Hyperion flushing technology, the high-efficiency Karo is EPA WaterSense-compliant, using only 1.28 gallons/flush and capable of clearing over 1,000 grams of solid waste in independent MaP testing. With an oversize 2 1/8-inch trapway, clogging is virtually eliminated, while precision rim jets and a MicroGlaze nonstaining, anti-microbial finish make for an easy-to-maintain bowl.

The Karo Collection comes in white and the toilet is available with several alternate trim finishes to compliment your bath hardware and accessories.

Pulled-Together Style

Accessories are a key element of any stylish outfit, supplying interest and charm and helping to create a polished head-to-toe look. This holds true for interior design, too, with accessories complementing other elements in the room to form a fully cohesive space. Ageless Iron is pleased to offer a new line of meticulously crafted accessories that perfectly enhance their collection of premium iron door hardware.

From coat hooks to door stops and wall plates to cabinet hardware, Ageless Iron accessories are beautiful and practical with a rich, black patina that is on-trend with today's hottest styles. As a company known for extraordinary craftsmanship and diligence, Ageless Iron brings a meticulous eye to every component of the manufacturing process.

All hardware and accessories are zinc-plated and powder-coated for exceptional durability and resistance to corrosion, UV-weathering and scratches. Mounting hardware is included with every order for easy installation, and all products are backed by an extensive five-year warranty.

Contrasting Sophistication

HamatUSA's Imagine Faucet features a striking split finish measuring more than 17 inches in height. The Imagine Split Finish Faucet has a sophisticated style with elegant lines and graceful curves versatile enough to complement any



décor. The kitchen faucet is offered in five distinctive finish combinations with the body of the faucet done in one finish and the handle and concealed spray head in coordinated contrast.

Options include antique copper with matte black, brushed nickel with matte black, matte black with matte gold, matte white with matte gold, and matte gold with matte white. Each faucet is meticulously finished using a combination of the brand's advanced PVD technologies and electrostatic powder-coating for years of lasting beauty.

The Imagine Split Finish Faucet is designed to meet the needs of today's busiest home kitchens. The dual-function pull-down spray head is neatly concealed when not in use and includes an extendable hose to easily reach all edges of the sink and beyond. The faucet is constructed of premium solid brass and

features hybrid stainless-steel and nylon hoses for added durability.

This remarkable faucet is a smart choice for remodeling and DYI projects with the brand's QuickConnect system and oversized deck mounting locknut for easy installation.

These are just a few of the new products we've discovered to give a kitchen or bathroom an elegant boost. The goal is to create a room offering peace and a space for reflection while also offering a serene functionality. Less is always more when it comes to elegance extraordinaire.

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