

November | December 2021

kitchen & bath DESIGN NEWS[®]

The leading business, design and product resource for the kitchen & bath trade



STYLE TRENDS • 38

THE ART OF JAPANDI

SPECIAL REPORT • 32

Most-Asked-About
Products of 2021

SHOW PREVIEW • 58

Gearing Up for KBIS

Cabinetry for the ‘Win’

Many of this year’s most-asked-about products showcased within the pages of *KBDN* and on its website emphasize the importance of cabinetry and its accessories.

BY KIM BERNDTSON



Creating highly functional and aesthetically pleasing spaces is contingent on much more than design alone. Designers know that finding just the right products for their clients is equally as critical and helps set the stage for ultimate success.

Often, they discover some of those products – like the perfect cabinetry, countertop, appliance or fixture that makes a kitchen or bathroom go from ho-hum to spectacular – within the pages of *Kitchen & Bath Design News* or on KitchenBathDesign.com.

At the end of each year, *KBDN* compiles a list of the Top 20 products that designers found most interesting, as identified through reader feedback.

This year’s list shines a spotlight on cabinetry and the significant role it plays in a kitchen or bathroom space. As evidence, the top four spots are either cabinets or related accessories. An additional seven spots within the Top 20 are represented by countertops, hardware and cabinetry configuration and organization.

While cabinetry dominates this year’s list, there are plenty of other products designers inquired about throughout the year. To find out what other products made the 2021 Most-Asked-About Product list, peruse the following pages and visit KitchenBathDesign.com. ■

1 SLIM SHAKER

Over the years, kitchen and bath design has seen a change from traditionally decorative door styles to a simple shaker look that has now become the standard in home fashion, relates Lisa Myers, head of the Showplace Cabinetry Product Development team.

The **Showplace Cabinetry** Shaker door styles have been popular for many years, and the showcased slimmer version gives a modern spin to the shaker family with its timeless look and feel.

“The Showplace Duet Slim Shaker option is very appealing, with its simple clean lines and ability to adapt to any design style within a home,” says Myers. “When paired with one of the many paint options we have available, the Duet Slim Shaker door looks stunning, displaying a distinct character within the simplicity of the door’s slim design.”

The simple Duet Slim Shaker style is available in the overlay, inset and frameless Showplace Cabinetry lines, delivering a modern feel to any living space.



6 SHOWER ORGANIZER

Staying organized is critical for all rooms of the home, including the bathroom. **Keuco** accommodates the need for storage in the shower/bath area by offering its Shower Shelf. Made from sturdy, eco-friendly aluminum material with a black or white powder-coated finish, the Shower Shelf helps maintain a tidy, organized shower by holding shampoo, conditioner, body washes and other items.

Removable for easy cleaning, the shelf is available in a closed-front design to hide items or a semi-open front to see what is behind. It offers customizable widths in ½" increments. It can be hung in either glued or screwed wall brackets.



8 LOOK-ALIKE SINTERED STONE

The range of surface options from **LOTTE Chemical Corporation** includes its Locelain sintered stone collection.

Available in an extensive range of nine bold to subtle colors - including those that resemble natural stone and concrete as well as a solid selection - the ultra-compact durable surfaces come in multiple sizes, including large-format sheets in polished, satin and matte finishes.

Resistant to UV rays, extreme temperatures, scratches and stains, the line performs in interior and exterior applications, including as wall cladding, flooring and countertops in kitchen and bathroom projects or any high-traffic areas that require additional durability and functionality.



7 RETRO APPLIANCES

According to Hillary Frei, president of **Big Chill**, a popular trend in interior design currently is mixing styles and pulling in elements of different decades.

"It creates a unique, personalized look," she states. "I think that's what makes our Retro line and the Original Fridge so popular. People want a seamless blend of old and new, and that's exactly what this product line is designed to do."

The company added Turquoise its line of finishes for the iconic Retro Fridge. It pays tribute to the 1950s, when the hue was widely used in Mid-Century kitchens and in fashion.

"In terms of the color, the pandemic has pushed us to incorporate more vibrant colors into our personal styles, and the Turquoise color is the perfect soft blue/green to add that pop," she continues. "It's reminiscent of the 1950's Robin Egg Blue we all recognize as iconic for the decade, and with retro styles coming back in all departments, it's a great addition to the modern all-white kitchens."

Turquoise joins the other colors in the line - White, Black, Cherry Red, Beach Blue, Orange, Jadite Green, Buttercup Yellow and Pink Lemonade. More than 200 custom colors are also available.



9 INTERIOR DESIGN SOFTWARE

Interior design software is an essential part of today's design process, relates Santiago Morales, **2020 Design Live** product manager.

"Clients are becoming more and more involved with their remodeling projects, and they expect 3D visualizations and digital floor plans to help them better understand what their future space will look like," says Morales. "An interior design software is also beneficial to the user's bottom line because it helps improve accuracy, minimize errors and convey realistic estimates, all contributing to a happy customer."

2020 Design Live is a kitchen and bathroom design software with built-in manufacturer catalogs, 3D rendering capabilities, an extensive library of decorative items, infinite customization options, advanced lighting functionality and so much more.

The latest software has features such as real-time collaboration between designers and clients, artistic effect options for renderings, and a multi-point feature that showcases different perspectives in a 360° panorama. 2020 Design Live is meant to simplify and streamline the design process so that users can focus on the creative, innovative and functional aspects of a project.