



# all about **HOME**

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# “IS IT TIME TO RENOVATE YOUR KITCHEN?”

LINDA MAZUR

Spring is around the corner and our thoughts naturally move towards what we can improve in our homes; perhaps this is the year your kitchen will make the list! Kitchens today are becoming more of an extension of your main living space. They are not just a place to prepare your meals, but a place to entertain and catch up with family and friends.

The trends for our kitchens for 2016 see our spaces becoming more streamlined, fresh, and functional; not just for cooking but for living. The continued movement towards an open concept effect sees kitchens flowing into main living spaces, therefore kitchen designs are incorporating more ways to



conceal or integrate the “functional” aspect of your kitchen such as appliances, sinks, and faucets.

Consider a great line of sinks and faucets from Blanco in their exclusive Silgranit material. The sinks are available in seven different colors that are inspired by earthy, natural tones which blend well with so many trending countertop possibilities. Silgranit is virtually indestructible! It is durable, scratch, impact and heat resistant, and extremely easy to clean. Compliment it with one of the new Silgranit or dual finish faucets to create a modern and coherent look in your kitchen – and an effective way to create a clean, uninterrupted look with your counter. Countertops are getting a facelift as well, playing up the movement towards a seamless look. Thick counters are being pushed aside with the appearance of thinner countertops in a color similar to your

cabinetry creating a sleek and consistent look in your kitchen.

White and neutral kitchens maintain their popularity, but we are seeing the emergence of bold pops of color to create more drama. You will be seeing color in everything from lighting, backsplashes and appliances, to sinks and faucets. White is always a staple in cabinetry, but do not be scared to add some color to your cabinets like light grays, pale blues, or even strong charcoal grays. What is gone, however, is the dark espresso wood which is being replaced with fresher, lighter tones such as white oak and walnut that show a bit of a grain and texture.

Trends are great to enhance the aesthetic of your kitchen design; however, it is important that you also pay close attention to the functionality of your kitchen. Maximize the space you have, whether large or small, efficiently. Think about how you are currently using your kitchen; what works for you and what does not. It is crucial that you understand your new kitchen design to ensure that your space will be functional for your own personal needs. There are many great features that you can add to your kitchen when renovating that will help create a clean and streamlined look, not to mention make life a bit simpler. Consider including a hidden "charging station" for phones and tablets, hidden drawers in the toe kick space which is great in smaller spaces to accommodate trays and platters, or perhaps a shelf with a hydraulic lift for your food processor. These are all great ideas and ways to efficiently maximize every inch of available space.

These trends can create many amazing designs for your kitchen. Embrace what 2016 has to offer and do not be afraid of exploring your creativity. Make your kitchen an inviting room where you are happy to entertain and live.



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**Linda Mazur** IS THE PRINCIPAL DESIGNER OF LINDA MAZUR DESIGN GROUP.

With over a decade of experience, this sought out multi-disciplinary interior design firm is known for providing innovative interior renovations and full scale building projects that reflect both timeless style and optimal functionality. The firm services Toronto, the GTA and surrounding areas.

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