

Kitchen Corner



Neutral Beauty A Top Trend

(NAPS)—If your family is like most, the kitchen is your home's central gathering place. Now, homeowners are looking to enhance their kitchens' appeal with a timeless and transitional design that also makes a personal statement.

Expert Advice

A recent survey of top architects and designers found that when it comes to kitchens, neutrals win the game. According to about 67 percent of those surveyed, gray and white kitchens are the dominating design projects this year.

The experts see this trend not only in paint choice and cabinetry, but in sinks as well. Meeting that need is a new SILGRANIT sink color, Concrete Gray. Clean, organic and extremely balanced, the shade is at home in both urban and natural settings. Its revolutionary warm red and cool blue undertones make it the most versatile color yet from the German sink manufacturer BLANCO. It works well with the popular farmhouse look and with mixed metals styles and finishes. And color is not the only reason to pick SILGRANIT. As one designer commented, "All I have been selling are the granite composite kitchen sinks. People love the colors offered and are sold on the durability."

The survey also found that while transitional is still the most popular style, farmhouse has seen steady gains; and that engineered quartz surpassed all-natural stone materials combined in popularity, paving the way to increasingly white countertops. Simplicity and minimalist design were consistently referenced as being important to those surveyed.

Find Your Match

Making it even easier to pick the best sink for your kitchen, BLANCO offers



Neutral colors—whites and grays in particular—are increasingly popular for sinks, appliances and countertops. Homeowners and designers use those colors to personalize, create a focal point and set a mood.

an app that helps match sinks and countertops. You can even take a photo of a countertop to add it to the app and match the sinks to that selection.

Including Concrete Gray, the company offers sinks in nine intelligent neutrals that can make a sink either a focal point or blend in with the counter. The granite composite SILGRANIT sinks are available in Anthracite, Café Brown, Cinder, Truffle, Metallic Gray, Biscuit, Biscotti, Concrete Gray and White to provide both warm and cool tones.

The faucets also come in complementary colors so you can match a faucet to a sink, an increasingly popular design idea.

You can find the app at www.blancoamerica.com.

What's Next

As for the kitchens of tomorrow, the designers predict:

- Smart kitchens
- Appliances controlled by smartphones
- A technology-based look that's edgy and futuristic.