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NEW JERSEY'S HOME & DESIGN MAGAZINE

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ask the pros advice on designing the perfect home

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KITCHEN TRENDS

What is trending in kitchen design today?

The kitchen is the most used space in a house and needs to be functional, durable and easily maintained as well as beautiful. The latest trends focus on cabinets, countertops and color.

For cabinets, what's happening inside is now as important as how they look outside. Pull-out shelves, dividers, appliance storage and other organizational systems help to make a more efficient workspace. A hardworking kitchen also needs durable materials such as quartz, Neolith and Dekton countertops that stand up to heat, cold, scratching and fading.

There is a bold, creative statement rising in the two-tone kitchen. The days of strictly one finish or color for cabinetry or countertops have faded. The perimeter can be designed in a neutral color, for example, with a contrasting color added for the island, base cabinetry, bar, hutch or prep area, whether it's the cabinetry, countertop or both.

We are also embracing warm brass and gold-tone accents right now in lighting, hardware and accessories that are mixing very well with the chrome and nickel to give us more flexibility for beauty and practicality.

— VIRGINIA TESI, VIRGINIA TESI DESIGN INC., SEA BRIGHT AND NEW YORK CITY

A mix of colors and materials is one of the trends in kitchen design.