



TRENDSETTER

Trends are one of those beautiful things that keep the world fresh, new and exciting. Every year a new set of trends come into play, steering our direction in the worlds of fashion, art, culture, and of course, design... Here, *Renovate* looks at the top kitchen trends for 2012-2013 Words Alexandra Longstaff

Open-plan and sustainable living have seen a resurgence this year, and Dune by Pedini brings texture and nature themes into the kitchen, whilst simultaneously adding a modern twist



Bontempi's Zero collection shows neutral tones and integrated living spaces



Texture and pops of colour as shown in this Laminex kitchen are on trend this year

KITCHEN TALK

Tanya Sharpe of Rogerseller gives her verdict on this year's kitchen trends

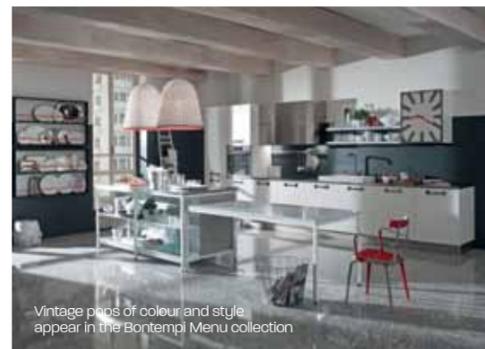
In the past year, what trends have been seen in the kitchen?

There has been a shift away from the all-white kitchen. What seems like a good idea at the time often leaves the owner with a more sterile atmosphere than anticipated. White can really benefit from the addition of feature materials and we have seen clients open up to the idea of mixing timber veneers and other natural materials to add more character.

What design trends will be coming in over the next year in kitchens?

The recent Eurocucina Fair in Milan highlighted a few key growing trends: more focus on the kitchen overlapping the living space, such as with the Bontempi Zero collection, and a cross-over that can be achieved by concealing electrical appliances. Vintage has become popular in recent times and we are seeing vintage-effect surface finishes, open storage units, and freestanding pieces that help reflect this theme. Traditional kitchen materials including steel, marble, tiles and wood are also making a comeback. The Bontempi Menu collection

introduces digital prints of milk glass and colanders, linen and chicken wire feature doors, and pops of red. Think green. There is a growing focus on green building,



Vintage pops of colour and style appear in the Bontempi Menu collection



The Mal Corboy kitchen utilises vintage shapes and tones



Bold colour and style can be found in Sydney Kitchen's designs



Vintage colours make an appearance in the VARIO 400 by Gaggenau

Which colours will we be seeing more of in the kitchen?

Pops of colour will become more visible in the kitchen. This is seen reflected in the Bontempi Zero range with its yellow and sky-blue highlights. The Bontempi range also offers a selection of 24 colours in their lacquer finishes. These can be used to complement a kitchen in white or warm grey for those not brave enough to go with full colour.

What can customers do to keep on top of moving trends in the next year?

Start slowly by introducing some of these trends as accessories in your kitchen if you are unsure. Seek advice from a specialised kitchen designer if you are looking for a more complete result, as they will help you find the right balance between the aesthetic (and introducing some of the upcoming trends) and the functionality of your kitchen. Be brave! You can really impart your personality into your kitchen.

For more information visit rogerseller.com.au



Eurocucina 2012 revealed a brand new set of trends at this year's Salone del Mobile in Milan

Natural colours

An increase in natural colours is said to be on

the rise, as can be seen with the Zero kitchen by Bontempi. Beiges, blacks, whites and browns will see a resurgence and there will also be an increase in the use of texture that adds dimension.

Sustainable materials

Those of you who are green-fingered and eco-conscious will be happy to hear that the use of



sustainable materials in the kitchen is on the up. Solutions such as stone surfaces and more ecological cement will appear, as will kitchen gardens and herb stations. See Visionnaire Estate's Luxury Cycas kitchen for inspiration.

MAIN
The Brindabella Wood Grain Kitchen showcases the use of sustainable materials in the kitchen

LEFT
Smallbone of Devizes unveils its first collection in collaboration with Kelly Hoppen who chose neutral tones

ABOVE
Light tones in the Integra Kitchen from Pedini create a light and sophisticated feel



AD



This stylish and futuristic kitchen by Pedini merges kitchen space and living area

Merged living spaces

We spend a great deal of time in the kitchen and a lot of that time is spent doing tasks we would rather not do on our own. The kitchen has

evolved into a sociable space where we interact with loved ones, or perform tasks that are much easier accomplished with the help of the television or, better yet, company. Combining



The Coplanar door storage system from Rogerseller epitomises hidden living

living spaces to form open-plan homes is on the rise, so that time in the kitchen is no longer time spent alone.

No handles and hidden living

With this increase in merged living spaces comes the problem of hiding unsightly appliances. You don't want your living areas to look like your kitchen; rather, you want to blend appliances into the area in a subtle manner. Handles are a no-go, and doors or screens that hide equipment are becoming more popular. 



Oven and television sit side by side in the Integra kitchen by Pedini