

# #2016KitchenTrends

FACT IS THE KITCHEN IS THE HEART OF EVERY HOME. YOU'VE PLACED THE CHIPS AND dip on the family room coffee table and created a beautiful centerpiece for the dining room, but still whenever family and friends are over, everyone congregates in the kitchen. Because of this, a kitchen incorporated into a "great room" has become the most asked for remodeling project in Orange County. That being said, many homeowners don't know where to start when planning a kitchen remodel, and are unaware of all the decisions that will have to be made.



## >Barely There

Modern design styles are drastically gaining popularity throughout Orange County. The open concept kitchen and living area are in high demand, while creating a space with clean lines and a simplistic design. Smaller appliances are making a comeback and open shelving is being seen as a key element in up-and-coming kitchen designs.

## >Cool, Grey Tones

Complimenting simple design trends is the popularity of the neutral, grey tones. These are seen most commonly seen in paint choices, cabinetry and tile selections. Benjamin Moore announced their color of the year to be Simple White, while Sherwin Williams followed suit with picking Alabaster to represent their 2016 color trends reconfirming this calming theme.

## >Mixed Materials

The days of matchy-matchy design are over. This coming year we will see the mixing of textures, sizes, shapes, and materials. Kitchen designs will incorporate different materials to create depth in texture and color which will be seen primarily in wall coverings and tile selections. In the past one tile may have been used as the shower wall and it continued onto the floor. This year we will see simple wall tiles being mixed with bold, patterned floor tiles. In the kitchen we are seeing mixed materials with island countertops being wood and the perimeter counters are quartz. To spice up a space we will also see designs that include neutral toned upper cabinets paired with dark stained base cabinets.

## >Incorporating Tech

Each year exciting new products are released that allow homeowners more technical functionality in their kitchens and bathrooms. This year we will see the rise of Bluetooth enabled appliances, charging stations built into countertop materials, electronic drawer openers and more. You can now turn your oven on to pre-heat on your way home from work, how cool is that? Popular kitchen facets are sleek and censored to turn on with just a touch of the hand in addition to heated flooring in bathrooms and kitchens.

