

Kitchens in trend

Today, kitchens seem to exert a gravitational pull on family and friends alike and nobody can ignore their primacy, says

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A tight and cramped kitchen doesn't suit today's trend of living - but renovating them is not always possible as modern kitchens are not only different at the design level, but also different at planning

and location level. So, sometime it is better just to start all over again.

Although it has been followed down the ages, it doesn't mean you need to conform to a old fashioned, rustic look when it comes to kitchen design. Today, kitchens seem to exert a gravitational pull on family and friends. This part of house is usually the centre of activity in the household. In today's lifestyle it is a place where both the host and guest spend a lot of time. Therefore it makes sense to plan a kitchen as a part of overall design approach to a home rather than as an isolated element, in the sense of using material, colours and ideas that appear elsewhere in the house. It also means, creating a kitchen with similar attributes with the rest of the house, so that it can meld



seamlessly into its general ambience.

Kitchen needs to be simple and functional to match the uncluttered, contemporary lines of the house. Square edged counters and cupboards on interior walls help to retain the modernist look. One can reflect the trend by using glass and stainless steel extensively. Tiles can be replaced by back painted glass lines, fixed with stainless steel studs. A central island table with steel legs and cooking hob contribute to a light and floating effect. It is both a large workspace, as well as a gathering area for family. An open view to garden or pool can multiply pleasure of cook-

ing and dining.

Timber used throughout the house should also be incorporated in the kitchen design. The custom-designed cabinets helps soften the crisp look of stainless steel. The kitchen can further be softened by pale green, milky-toned walls and ceramic-tile floors. Granite can be replaced by synthetic counter tops or stainless steel finish. Using of wood over ceiling can connect the area from top to bottom. Simple clean colours and lines, combined with well organised cabinetry, make a small kitchen look larger than it actually is and the island table also makes



it highly efficient and functional.

Modular accessories are an essential part of kitchens, but one should kept in mind their future utility before actually setting them up. There should be a proper arrangement for dustbin near chopping area. Containers of salt and spices should be close to the hob. There should be proper moving space in cooking area and some open space should be left for placing vegetables and fruits. Drawers make kitchen usage more elastic and they are of great utility.

Light is another essential element of kitchen. Proper lighting gives a kitchen a

neat and tidy look and also increases working pleasure. Big windows covered with roller blinds can bring day light in and give a modern look too. A skylight has additional benefits as it increases a kitchens beauty.

Creativity is an essential part of a good kitchen design. Every home and homemakers have slightly different likes and dislikes, needs and requirements. Good kitchens don't just happen by accident. They are the result of a well considered plan keeping in view one's requirements and a concerted effort and willingness in fulfilling them.