

SCENE

It's all
about the
details when
designing
your home's
kitchen,
baths,
and bar.

STEALERS

PHOTO COURTESY OF HAMMERTON LIGHTING

IF

you are in the market to build or remodel your home, it makes sense during planning to place your focus—and investment—in the rooms where your family will spend the majority of their time. And in most homes, this will be the kitchen and baths.

“These rooms typically contain some of the most important, and sometimes most costly, investments a homeowner will make,” says Dallas designer Suzy Childress. “From large appliances and equipment to plumbing fixtures and even finishes, these areas are the most lived-in rooms of the home.”

The selections in these rooms—from appliances and fixtures to hardware and surfaces—should be carefully considered because in high-traffic areas, quality and craftsmanship matter. “Poor quality will not withstand the test of time and will result in replacements and problems going forward,” Childress says.

When thoughtfully designed, kitchens and baths become more than just another room in the house—they become retreats. The heart of any home, the kitchen, is where family and friends comfortably gather to cook and enjoy a meal together. At the end of a busy day, it is a treat to find refuge in a well-appointed bath, where luxurious details make it feel more like a spa than a place to shower before work. Even a powder bath or a home bar can become an artful conversation piece when it is well designed with modern, unique details.



PHOTOS COURTESY OF THE KITCHEN SOURCE; HAMMERTON LIGHTING; ALLIED GALLERY

The Kitchen Source

SPECIAL ADVERTISING SECTION

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BY JENNIFER SANDER HAYES



Hammerton Lighting

Do's and Don'ts in Kitchen & Bath Lighting

LAYER LIGHTING.

At a minimum, incorporate ambient lighting for general illumination and task lighting for the vanity or kitchen island. Accent lighting to highlight architectural or decorative features is also ideal.

INCORPORATE DIMMERS.

Both the kitchen and bath are multi-functional spaces—kitchens for cooking and entertaining, baths for grooming and relaxation. The thoughtful use of dimmers allows you to create an inviting atmosphere for social gatherings in the kitchen and a spa-like environment in the bath.

USE A CONSISTENT COLOR TEMPERATURE.

Whether you prefer a warm and inviting 2,700K, a cool and crisp 3,500K-4,000K—or somewhere in between—identify your preferred color

temperature and carry it through all the light sources in a space.

DON'T RELY ON A SINGLE LIGHT SOURCE.

Even if your primary light fixture provides a lot of lumen output, you'll want to supplement it with other light sources to balance the lighting and minimize shadows.

DON'T IGNORE TASK LIGHTING.

The kitchen and bath are functional spaces. Whether at a mirror or a kitchen island, task lighting is essential to getting things done.

DON'T OVERLOOK NATURAL LIGHT.

Everything looks better in natural light! Even in a kitchen or bathroom, natural light will enhance the visual appeal of the space and boost your mood.

Source: Levi Wilson, Vice President of Design, Hammerton Lighting



Allied Gallery



Allied Gallery

Yes, the bar has made a resurgence in popularity in today’s custom homes. No longer tucked away in the corner of a gameroom or basement, bars are bold showpieces that make a statement all on their own. “Bars are becoming standout design moments again, especially as we find new ways to reimagine underused spaces,” says interior designer Dana Bass. “We’ve been carving out chic bar areas in places like hallways and under the stairs, where mirrored backsplashes bounce light and amplify style.”

The key to getting the kitchen and bath—and home bar—of your dreams is to plan the design early and seek the expertise of experienced, well-respected industry professionals who can help you avoid costly mistakes in selections and design, all



Kitchen + Bath + Bar Trend Watch

Throughout kitchens, baths, and bars we are seeing more luxury materials including semi-precious stones, such as Lalique, Baccarat, Daum crystal, or just crystal in general. -TKO ASSOCIATES

Contemporary door and cabinet hardware, smooth and warm to the touch, utilizing natural materials such as wood and concrete. -PIERCE HARDWARE

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Designers are incorporating stone in unexpected ways, such as curved stone vanities and integrated stone sinks, adding a sculptural element to these spaces. -ALLIED GALLERY

In kitchens we will be seeing more unique countertops, natural stone, and lava stone as well as warmer metal tones such as burnished brass, graphite, and gun metal. -TKO ASSOCIATES

Some homeowners are forgoing master bathtubs altogether and moving toward larger steam showers. -PIERCE HARDWARE

Consider the use of slabs that feature bookmatch options, where adjacent slabs are designed to mirror each other like an open book. This creates a stunning, continuous pattern that adds a high end look to any surface—perfect for large installations like feature walls or expansive countertops. -DALTILE

There will be more use of layering finishes in traditional kitchens, such as an unlacquered brass faucet and polished-nickel cabinet hardware. -TKO ASSOCIATES

Wellness spaces properly equipped with both steam and saunas. -PIERCE HARDWARE

In kitchens and bars, we are seeing more opening shelving made from brass and glass. -TKO ASSOCIATES

Gallery workstations in both interior and exterior kitchens accompanied by multiple marine-grade stainless steel taps. -PIERCE HARDWARE

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In 2025, bold veining and dramatic stone patterns are making a statement in kitchens and bathrooms. Full-height backsplashes and waterfall islands are being used to create seamless transitions, especially when paired with colorful or expressive materials. -ALLIED GALLERY



Daltile

while creating spaces with high-quality products, finishes, and materials that you and your family will enjoy for years to come.

“Investing in high-quality materials for kitchens and bathrooms enhances both functionality and aesthetic appeal, leading to increased home value and improved daily living experiences,” says Sophia Casillas with Allied Gallery. “Durable materials not only withstand the test of time but also offer timeless beauty that elevates the overall design.”



Pierce Hardware

PHOTOS COURTESY OF ALLIED GALLERY; DALTILE; PIERCE HARDWARE



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