

Renderings



1

Top Kitchen Trends for 2015

Fresh new ideas add beauty, function and convenience to the kitchen.

1. Light and Simple

White or off-white Shaker-style doors create a light and clean look in a kitchen. Cabinets in shades of white are enduring and versatile, appearing in cottage, traditional and even modern kitchens.

2. Efficiency Inside

Twenty years ago, kitchen cabinets were well-equipped if they included a lazy Susan and a built-in spice rack. Now storage options are plentiful, including pullout shelves for pots and pans, racks for canned and dry goods, tip-up mixer stands and bins for garbage, recycling and pet food. Narrow spaces that would otherwise have false cabinet fronts are utilized for cookie sheets, muffin tins and kitchen sponges.

3. Customized Drawers

Cabinets and drawers now conceal custom features. Drawer inserts can be set up to hold silverware or cutlery. Movable pegged dowels can be customized to fit a variety of dishes and china.

4. Steam Ovens

Steam ovens boil water from an inbuilt reservoir to create a cloud of steam within the oven chamber. This not only reduces cooking time, but also lowers the fat content of food—meat needs no supplementary fat to retain moisture because of the constant injections of steam. Steam cooking also preserves more vitamins than other cooking methods and is therefore touted as a healthier way of preparing foods.

5. Floor-to-Ceiling Cabinetry

In this kitchen, the wall opposite the cook zone is dedicated to storage with cabinetry to the ceiling. A floor-to-ceiling bank of cabinets is both beautiful and practical, housing everything from everyday dishes to small appliances to linens.



2



3



4



5

Continued on next page



Plekkenpol
BUILDERS, INC

Remodeling

Learn More:



Top Kitchen Trends for 2015 *Continued*

6. Mismatched Cabinets

A cabinet or island in a color or wood that's different from the rest of the kitchen works much like a patterned scarf with a solid-color shirt. More than a finishing touch, it breaks up the monotony to become a pivotal design piece. This kitchen mixes traditional white cabinetry with a dark walnut island, bringing warmth and dimension into the space. It's also an option to treat a hutch or a section of cabinetry in the same manner.



7. Built-in Appliances

Appliances might be more intelligent, efficient and feature-packed than ever, but that doesn't mean they're grabbing the spotlight in today's kitchen. Here, the fridge is hidden behind matching cabinet doors to maintain a cohesive look in this traditional kitchen.



8. Embellishments

Gone are the days when cabinets were unadorned boxes. Today's most interesting styles take their finishing touches from furniture and architecture. Carvings, cutouts and moldings add emphasis to a cabinet's decorative aspects.



9. Metallic Backsplashes

Cool and refined, a metallic backsplash can be a gorgeous addition to a kitchen area. Ranging in styles from embossed tin to raised aluminum mosaic tile, these backsplashes provide an easy-to-clean surface while adding to the overall look of a kitchen.



10. French Casement Windows

A French casement window has no center stile or vertical post, and instead opens like a French door—simply crank open the window and enjoy a completely unobstructed view.

Source: bhg.com. Photography by Brandon Rowell unless noted.



Ice Dams

Ice dams are one of the many challenges that homeowners face during the winter months. Although we have little snow on roofs and no ice dams at the moment, winter is not over! If you do experience roof leaks when ice damming is present, it is important to understand what is happening and take action.

What is an ice dam?

An ice dam is a ridge of ice that forms at the edge of a roof and prevents melting snow from draining off the roof as it should. The water that backs up behind the dam can leak into a home and cause damage to walls, ceilings, insulation and other areas.

What causes ice dams?

Ice dams form when heat collects in the attic and warms up portions of the roof, but not the eaves. Snow begins to melt on the warm roof, but then it freezes when it reaches the cold eaves. A dam forms, water backs up behind it, and then it flows under the shingles and into the house. When icicles form along the edges of your roof, it's often the sign of an ice dam problem.

What causes different roof surface temperatures?

What causes the roof to warm up in certain areas and stay cold in others? The answer is fairly simple: heat leaking from the house into the attic and to the roof.

This can take place via **conduction**, which happens when heat moves through parts of the ceiling where there may not be adequate space for insulation; **convection**, when the attic surface is warmer than the surrounding space and the air near the surface is heated and rises to the roof; and **radiation**, when the temperature along the top surface of the insulation is higher than the temperature of the roof sheathing, which then transfers heat outward.

Heat is transferred via leaks in the attic, through exhaust systems in the kitchen or bathroom, and through wood stoves and fireplaces, to name a few.

CAUTION: *Roof shoveling and ice dam removal are a specialty, and homeowners should locate a firm that specializes in and is insured to perform roof shoveling and ice dam removal. Plekkenpol Builders is not insured to perform roof shoveling or ice dam removal.*



The unusually high heat loss on this roof has caused both an ice dam and icicles.

My house has ice dams! What should I do?

Immediate action:

Remove snow from the roof. This eliminates one of the ingredients necessary for the formation of an ice dam. A "roof rake" and push broom can be used to remove snow, but may damage the roofing materials.

In an emergency situation where water is flowing into the house structure, making channels through the ice dam allows the water behind the dam to drain off the roof. Hosing with tap water on a warm day will do this job. Work upward from the lower edge of the dam. The channel will become ineffective within days and is only a temporary solution to ice dam damage.

Long term action:

The formation of ice dams can be reduced by controlling the heat loss from the home.

First, make the ceiling air tight so no warm, moist air can flow from the house into the attic space. Second, natural ventilation can help maintain uniform roof temperatures. Check your home to make sure you have adequate soffit and roof ventilation.

After sealing air leakage paths between the house and attic space, consider increasing the ceiling/roof insulation to cut down on heat loss by conduction.

In the News

Plekkenpol Remodeling
BUILDERS, INC



2014 RECIPIENT
ACE AWARD

Achievement in Consumer Excellence

Plekkenpol Builders, Inc. is a proud recipient of a 2014 Achievement in Consumer Excellence (ACE) award for providing an elite level of service to consumers.

Hosted by the Minnesota Chapter of the National Association of the Remodeling Industry (NARI MN), the ACE award program gives consumers the opportunity to rate remodeling service providers in five categories: quality, responsiveness, meeting deadlines, professionalism and communication. We are honored to have achieved this service award.

Plekkenpol Builders, Inc. has been voted Best Remodeling Company in Bloomington, Richfield and Eagan, and Best Handyman in Bloomington by SUN Newspapers readers. The 2015 SUN Newspapers Readers' Choice Awards are voted on by readers and given to individuals that exemplify excellence in their field.

Plekkenpol Builders is proud to have achieved these awards, and we would like to say THANK YOU to our loyal and satisfied customers who voted for us and rated us so highly! We have long-standing relationships with so many of our customers, and our business wouldn't thrive without you. Thank you for your referrals and your support!



Remodeling

Plekkenpol

BUILDERS, INC

401 East 78th Street
Bloomington, MN 55420
(952) 888-2225
www.plekkenpol.com

Inside:



- **Top Kitchen Trends for 2015**
Fresh new ideas for your kitchen
- **Ice Dams**
What causes ice dams, and what you can do to prevent them
- **In the News** Plekkenpol Builders is honored with two excellence awards
- **Calendar of Upcoming Events**



Be the first to hear about promotions and events—Like Us on Facebook!

Licensed & Insured | MN Lic BC001797

{ CALENDAR } { OF EVENTS 2015 }

Remodeling

Plekkenpol

BUILDERS, INC

The **Difference** is in the **Details**

February 25–March 1

Minneapolis Home & Garden Show

Minneapolis Convention Center
www.homeandgardenshow.com

Booth #3351 (Near the Kitchen Stage)

Wed. 12 pm–9 pm • Thurs. & Fri. 10 am–9 pm
Saturday 9 am–9 pm • Sunday 9 am–6 pm

Saturday, March 21

Eden Prairie Home, Landscape & Garden “Everything Spring” Expo

Grace Church

9301 Eden Prairie Road, Eden Prairie
www.epchamber.org/events.asp

9 am–3 pm • Free Admission!



Parade of Homes
Remodelers Showcase®



THE BIG ONE
**MINNEAPOLIS
HOME
+ GARDEN
SHOW**

March 27–29

Parade of Homes Remodelers Showcase®

6217 Loch Moor Drive, R29
Edina, MN 55439

www.paradeofhomes.org
Friday 1 pm–7 pm • Sat. & Sun. 12 pm–6 pm

The Parade of Homes Remodelers Showcase® is a Trade/Service mark of the Builders Association of the Twin Cities and is used with permission.

Saturday, April 11

Macalester-Groveland & Highland Area Home Improvement Fair

Cretin Derham Hall

550 S. Albert Street, St. Paul
www.highlanddistrictcouncil.org/events

9 am–2 pm • Free Admission!