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ESPRESSO MILANO

2019 Kitchen Focus

*We bring you the latest
international trends and
some of this country's most
beautiful kitchens.*

Words Leanne Amodeo and Amanda Harkness

The kitchen, as the heart of the home, has undergone reinvention after reinvention. It has been subject to trends that have either stood the test of time or, thankfully, disappeared from view, never to emerge again. While current trends are distinct in their aesthetics, we're also witnessing stylistic mash-ups where designers and architects pick and choose the very best of what's gone before, along with what's popular now.

Doherty Design Studio's Beechworth Residence kitchen, for example, is an exquisite study in handmade finishes and features, yet it also brings the drama via a striking material palette and structural elements. And the kitchen of Function Walls by Lookofsky Architecture may be a colour-saturated dream but it's also restrained in materiality and arrangement. The thing that unifies today's kitchens is an aversion to sterility; above all else, each of them has character and tonnes of soul.

This just goes to show that designers and architects are creating kitchens with their clients very much in mind; the best outcome is the one that reflects those who use it on a daily basis. Functionality is, therefore, just as important as are aesthetics and, whether it's open plan or not, small or large, gaining the most from this most social of domestic spaces remains a priority. This may mean the introduction of a butler's pantry or an oversized island, more shelving or hidden storage tucked away in unlikely places.

Regardless, most would argue that the best part of any kitchen is its inherent messiness: the theatricality created when cooking for family or friends and the dirty dishes left on countertops in the breakfast rush. A well-designed kitchen provides the framework for everyday life and the most successful are as hard-working as they are good looking.

COLOUR-RICH

From deep grey and green to bright yellow and pink, colour is back in the kitchen in a very bold way. Accents never go out of fashion but taking colour to new levels of saturation is most certainly on the rise.

Egg-yolk-yellow finishes on the recessed seating alcove, bench and island unify the kitchen and dining space in this home by Lookofsky Architecture in Stockholm. It's bright and cheerful: carefully tempered by white joinery and honey-coloured timber flooring. Photographer Mattias Hamrén/stylist Hanna Tunemar.





MINIMALIST

Today's minimalist kitchen isn't sterile or whitewashed and, while its arrangement is still pared back, with clean lines and uncomplicated styling, the material palette is warmer with judiciously introduced accents that offer vignettes of visual interest. This kitchen by architectural practice yh2 in a three-pavilion home in Wentworth-Nord, Canada, expresses today's minimalism perfectly. The lines are clean and the arrangement is uncluttered, while timber flooring and joinery add warmth. Photographer Maxime Brouillet/ Courtesy v2com.



DRAMATIC

This is a strong trend that came to attention at EuroCucina 2018. Featuring dark colours, sculptural forms and distinctly patterned finishes, this look is a backlash to the all-white kitchen and doesn't appear to be passing any time soon. Dark colours, striking light fittings and robust materiality define this kitchen in Tel Aviv and Axelrod Architects has made the scheme appear all the more dramatic by keeping it relatively pared back and minimally furnished. Photographer Amit Geron.

City Loft G's kitchen in Antwerp by Aajaan De Feyter is restrained, with dark finishes highlighting the joinery, flooring and sculptural island. The project also showcases this trend's use of heavily patterned marble: a hard-to-ignore feature. Photographer Piet-Albert Goethals.



HANDCRAFTED

The hand of the designer or architect defines this trend, which emphasises craftsmanship and artisanal skills. It manifests in handmade finishes and bespoke elements, which make the kitchen all the more inviting. Beechworth Residence's kitchen in Melbourne by Doherty Design Studio is inspired by the simplicity of Japanese design and the idea of quality over quantity. It features handmade elements, including Japanese tiles and poured concrete benchtops. Photographer Derek Swalwell.



ARTISTIC

Artistry in the kitchen isn't just about prints or paintings on the walls. Rather, it's a combination of bespoke furnishings, lush materials and delicious colours that all come together in a celebration of creative expression and personality. This transformation of a 1960s' house by Amber Road in Sydney's Cronulla features a kitchen that's lively and energetic in composition and styling. Bold colour and textured surfaces add visual interest and open storage makes it look comfortably lived in. Photographer Prue Roscoe/stylist Alicia Sciberras.



Studio Italia's Joanna Hoelt says an informal dining area at the kitchen island often features in the studio's designs.



01. The tall units in this Poliform Twelve kitchen are finished in a metal lacquer and the island has etched glass doors and a Dekton benchtop. 02. Bronze glass doors enclose a cupboard with internal LED lighting. 03. The Poliform Trail kitchen features cenere oak and embossed lacquer finishes.

Creative kitchen spaces

"Our style direction for the kitchen is definitely influenced by Poliform and what it is doing in Italy. We offer packages for clients to customise their kitchens completely.

The majority of our designs include more than one door finish and a combination of finishes and textures. This creates an interesting palette while also being carefully considered and harmonious.

There's a lot of interest in dark timbers (black elm and spessart oak), mid-tone walnut and a new petrified oak finish. Stainless-steel doors and the new 6mm-thick stainless benchtops are enjoying a resurgence, as are bronze and titanium-coloured metal lacquer finishes. Natural stone benches and splashbacks are still popular but etched glass benchtops and Dekton ceramic surfaces are gaining momentum. There's also more lighting in both our wall units and our drawers.

Most of our designs still include generous scullery spaces and large, informal dining areas around islands – where whole families can congregate."



Over recent years, the kitchen has evolved to become so much more than simply a place to cook meals. It is now the entertainment hub of the home: a space which promises action and, more importantly, social interaction. It's the room in which people come together at the start of the day and, again, as it draws to a close.

Today, there's a real drive for kitchens to reflect individual tastes and lifestyles. We're no longer interested in the traditional look; instead, either we want our kitchen to blend in seamlessly with the style of the rest of our house or we want it to stand out, with a series of bright, bold statements. This increased sense of individuality calls for customised and contrasting detailing, and designers and manufacturers are happy to be creative. They can customise colours, surfaces, handles and trims on cabinetry and appliances in every conceivable hue and material finish, from beautiful mint greens and bright reds to opulent marbles and etched glass. Our passion for natural, raw materials endures, as we seek to connect further with nature; wood, honed natural stone, shiplap and jute all create a pared-back sense of calmness and light. In contrast, copper, brass and marble lend an understated opulence to the more dramatic kitchen. And our obsession with stainless steel continues, providing a utilitarian, industrial edge in what is, at its core, a functional space.

Matte black continues to dominate, partnering beautifully with wood, marble and stainless steel but look out for the predicted emergence of hunter and olive greens for a fresh twist on the classic muted black.

Not surprisingly, size has become an important consideration in today's kitchen. While some homes may have the luxury of space, the kitchens found in those houses with smaller footprints and in medium to high-density dwellings call for smaller, more-compact appliances, and those that can be integrated, where possible. Ovens and other service areas are often concealed behind sliding doors, dishwasher drawers take up minimal space under island benches and storage is maximised with clever, discreet solutions.

When so much time is spent in the kitchen, the most important thing is that we feel right at home in it. As British food writer Mina Holland points out, it's where most of waking life happens. "Practically and symbolically, the kitchen has transcended straightforward culinary utility: it is the nucleus of the home"... which is exactly the way we like it.



Rich, lively tones

“This kitchen sits within an open-plan living area, with a living room on one side and a stacked kitchen and dining area on the other. It is a horseshoe shape, with cabinetry rising to the clerestory windows and cupboards to the side screening the kitchen from the living area. Sitting on stainless-steel tubular legs, these cupboards appear to float above the spotted gum floor. The rich, lively gaboon ply is complemented by a copper splashback running along the generous back bench and copper down each side of the island bench. The open cupboards are clashed with solid spotted gum and the rangehood is faced with black steel, picking up on the other fire elements in the house. With all of the services at the back, the island bench is a simple set of drawers and a breakfast bar. Lighting above the island can be raised and lowered with a touch and hidden LEDs under the shelving provide a beautiful wash to the copper as well as task lighting.”

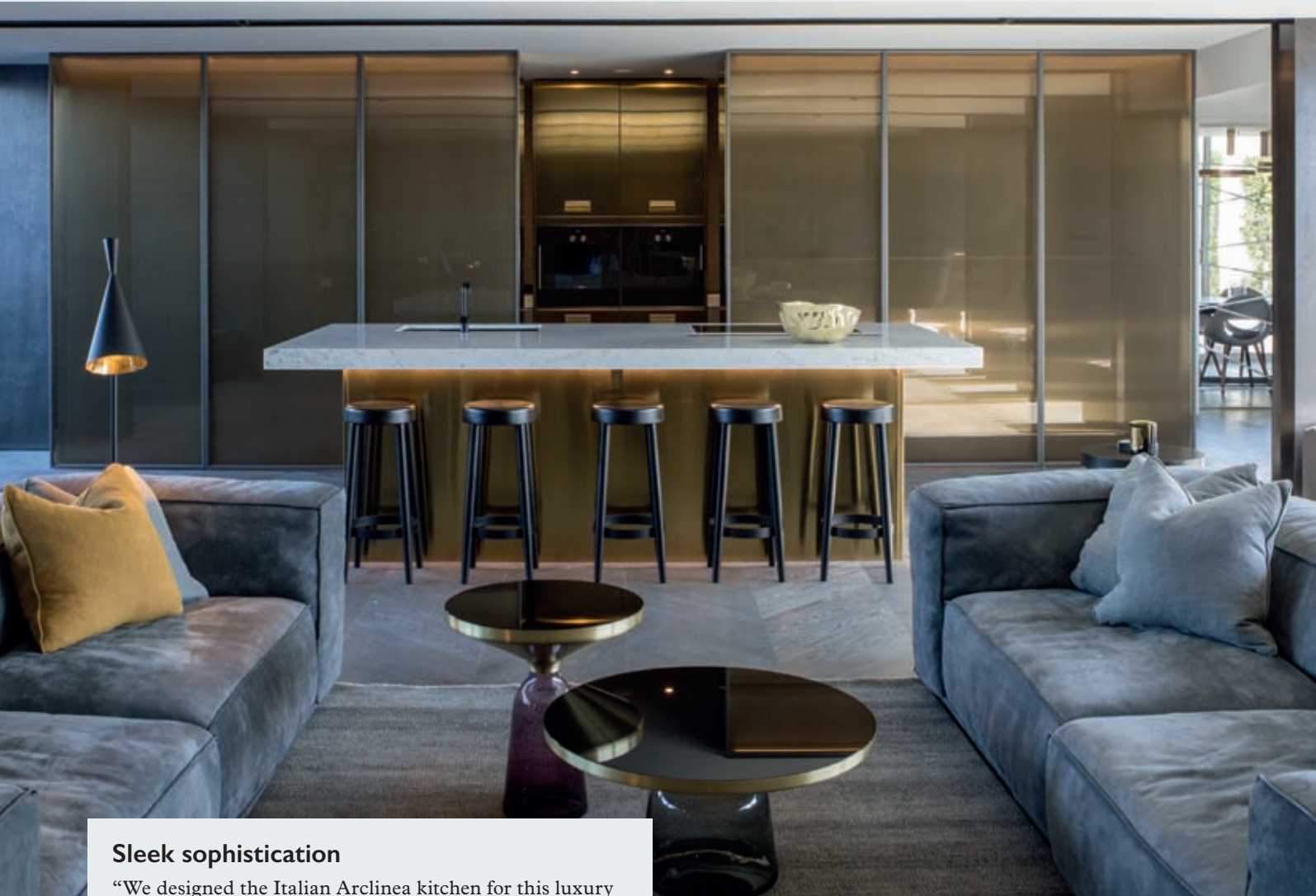
— Nicola Herbst, *Herbst Architects*

Fresh and light filled

“This kitchen is in a beautiful family villa, which was renovated throughout by Jose Gutierrez Architecture. He situated the kitchen in the centre of a large, rectangular, open-plan living space, with free-standing tall cabinetry creating the separation between bedroom areas and kitchen, dining and family areas. This eliminated the need for a traditional hallway. The client wanted a Swedish look and feel so the walls are Resene Black White and the cabinetry is American oak with a black oil finish. The island surface is a leathered natural stone – fantasy white granite from SCE Stone – with an American ash bench on the seating side with a white oil finish. We used a Mirotone polyurethane satin finish on the cupboards and drawers to match the walls. The north-facing space gets a lot of sun and has a high ceiling, with black steel joinery doors and windows that open to the garden.”
— Morgan Cronin, Cronin Kitchens



Herne Bay House, Auckland. Photograph: Sam Hartnett.



Sleek sophistication

“We designed the Italian Arclinea kitchen for this luxury apartment in collaboration with Maria Pomeroy from Matisse. It has a walk-in scullery to the left and right of the two ovens in the centre. The oven and island cabinetry has a champagne-coloured PVD stainless-steel finish and the benchtops and island top are Carrara marble by Artisan Stone.

The fixed glass doors, which conceal the scullery and mirror the small den at the other end of the room, are by Rimadesio. They are made up of a laminated Rete Bronzo glass with Piombo Spazzolato aluminium frames and are fixed into place by a built-in ceiling track. There is no bottom track so the floor flows seamlessly throughout. Appliances are all by Gaggenau and the floor is oak, stained grey, by Swinard Wooden Floors. The two Classicon Bell tables with hand-blown glass bases were chosen to complement the colour scheme.”

— *Philippa Diver and Jane Dewe of JP Design and +MAP Architects*



Of this earth

“This kitchen sits within a simple courtyard-based house for a young family, which is clad with a zinc aluminium magnesium skin that you would find on American Midwest silos. The house is based on the same principles as those of the Palm Springs aesthetic of Richard Neutra’s Kaufmann House and Albert Frey’s work. Your arrival at the kitchen represents a careful unlayering of a series of moments and what you find is in total contrast to the rest of the house. The intent of the island is that it comes from the centre of the earth and acts as an anchor. I have been obsessed with marble for a long time, which is why I chose this opulent green forest marble from Italy, sourced locally from Italian Stone. The kitchen is all about this object that stands in the middle of the space and looks as though it shouldn’t be there. Beside the island, you step down to a 5x3m daybed area, sitting under the pōhutakawa canopy as it drops away to the Waitemātā.”

— Michael O’Sullivan, *Bull O’Sullivan Architecture*

DIRECTORY: COOLING



Gaggenau Vario Fridge

This stunning fridge opens to a stainless-steel interior with anthracite anodised aluminium elements, housing clear-glass shelving. gaggenau.co.nz



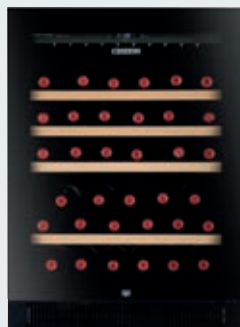
Fisher & Paykel CoolDrawer™ Multi-temperature Drawer

Designed to fit flush in your kitchen or entertaining area, this fridge drawer switches easily between five different modes – fridge, freezer, pantry, chill and wine. fisherpaykel.com



Samsung Home Hub Fridge

When your fridge has a WiFi-enabled touchscreen, you can manage your groceries, connect with your family and entertain like never before. samsung.com



Yintec Wine Fridge

This wine fridge keeps your wine bottles in perfect cellaring conditions. electrolux.co.nz



Fisher & Paykel Quad Door Fridge Freezer

Offering true storage flexibility, this fridge freezer has a variable temperature zone compartment, bright LED lighting and a stainless-steel contemporary design. fisherpaykel.com



Smeg Mondrian Fridge

Enjoy art in the kitchen with this eye-catching Smeg FAB28 fridge and its intersecting black lines and fields of block colour. kitchenthings.co.nz

Fisher & Paykel Integrated Column Refrigerator & Freezer

This new column refrigerator and freezer range fits flush (with no visible hinges or grilles) and can be hidden seamlessly within your kitchen cabinetry. fisherpaykel.com



Rocket Macinatore Fausto Grinder

With all the features and functionality of a commercial grinder in a more compact form, this grinder is perfect for the home. It is available in black, chrome and white. rocket-espresso.co.nz



Fisher & Paykel Built-in Coffee Maker

From espresso to latte (and other options in between), this coffee maker can be programmed to start at the same time each day to make your favourite coffee. fisherpaykel.com



Tom Dixon Brew Stove Top Coffee Maker

This steel-bodied espresso maker with a copper finish is given balance and elegance by a solid base and a heat-resistant, easy-pour handle – ideal for everyday baristas. ecc.co.nz and simonjamesdesign.com



Smeg Benchtop Coffee Machine

Drink espresso as the Italians do with this pastel-blue coffee machine in an iconic retro aesthetic. kitchenthings.co.nz



Rocket Appartamento Espresso Machine

This is a compact machine designed for environments where space is at a premium. It is available with white or copper circular side panel inserts. rocket-espresso.co.nz



DeLonghi Nespresso Lattissima One

Compact and affordable, Lattissima One is an intuitive single-serve, one-touch system that fits perfectly in any kitchen. delonghi.com

DIRECTORY: FURNISHING

KXN Steel Kitchen System

With a sophisticated, refined aesthetic, the free-standing pre-configured modules of this steel kitchen system can be configured to suit your individual space. imo.co.nz



Mattiazzi He Said/She Said Chair

Designed by Nitzan Cohen, with a masculine-feminine variation, these chairs restructure the concept of the way in which a family of chairs is composed. simonjamesdesign.com



Hettich SlideLine M 2-Track

This sliding track allows you to access your overhead kitchen cabinets easily while revealing and displaying various collections of kitchenware. hettich.com



Plateau Table

With its generous proportions and forgiving edges, Plateau is the perfect partner for entertaining, enjoying a lazy Sunday breakfast or spreading out the paperwork. imo.co.nz



Bover Fora Pendant

This beautiful woven lampshade releases light through a frosted globe. ecc.co.nz



Hettich WingLine L Folding Door System

This hinge system ensures your kitchen overhead cabinets open softly, offering a full view of their contents. hettich.com



Feelgood Designs Kaki Stool

Named after our endangered native black stilt and defined by its leggy silhouette, this rattan-seated stool comes either with or without a backrest. backhousesnz.com

**Normann Copenhagen
Washing-up Bowl and Brush**

Bring a bit of Nordic coolness to your kitchen with this flexible rubber washing-up bowl. You can also use it as a champagne cooler. backhousenz.com



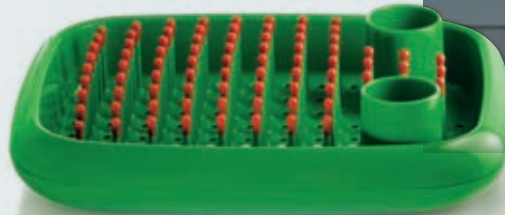
Smeg Under Counter Dishwasher

Dishwashers can be functional and stylish, as this 60cm under counter dishwasher from Smeg demonstrates. kitchenthings.co.nz



**Fisher & Paykel Black
DishDrawer™ Dishwasher**

In striking black stainless steel, this double DishDrawer™ dishwasher allows you to wash one drawer and stack the other or wash both at once, using different programmes. fisherpaykel.com



Magis Dish Doctor

If you like to wash your dishes the old-fashioned way, you can't go past this durable dish drainer, designed by Marc Newson for the functional aesthete. ecc.co.nz

**Fisher & Paykel
Integrated Dishwasher**

This integrated dishwasher has flexible wash options and can be integrated fully into your kitchen for a seamless look. fisherpaykel.com



Tetra Countertop Dishwasher

This compact dishwasher holds two full place settings, needs no plumbing (just an electrical outlet), saves water and takes only 10 minutes for a cycle. myheatworks.com



DIRECTORY: COOKING



Fisher & Paykel Classic Freestanding Dual Fuel Cooker

You can cook several dishes at once in this generous 140L pyrolytic self-cleaning oven, which is available in black, red, white and stainless steel. fisherpaykel.com



Gaggenau Built-In Oven

Meticulously engineered and beautifully designed, this 60cm 200 Series pyrolytic oven brings sophistication to any contemporary kitchen space. gaggenau.co.nz



PITT Cooking

This system offers the luxury of having separate gas burners integrated into your countertop (composite, granite, concrete, terrazzo, stainless steel, etc.), with spacing between that suits you. ikoncommercial.co.nz



Samsung Chef Collection Induction Cooktop

This advanced cooking technology adapts to the size of your pots, has embedded LED lights to help you visualise heat intensity and a detachable magnetic knob for cleaning. samsung.com



Miele CleanSteel Steam Oven

Cooking with steam in this DG 6200 oven retains the natural food flavours as well as valuable vitamins, minerals and trace elements. miele.co.nz



Falcon 5 Burner Freestanding Oven

This olive-green Falcon 100cm dual-fuel cooker teams innovation with classic style. kitchenthings.co.nz



My Rocket and me

William Carden-Horton, or Bill as we know him, invited us into his home in Mount Victoria to gain an insight into the mind of a Rocket Espresso machine owner. He's an artist, designer and, judging from his Instagram, a bit of a social media guru.

Every bit the artist, he tried not to art-direct the shoot but couldn't help but offer suggestions for poses or staging. Setting up, we asked Bill for his three dream dinner guests; immediately, he said, "David Bowie". Then, after some thought, he followed up with "Salvador Dalí and Dries van Noten", drawing a small moustache after Dalí's name like a punctuation mark.

Bill is the owner of a white Mozzafiato Type v Rocket Espresso machine; this model features an adjustable temperature display, which allows individual brewing temperatures for different coffee types and roast styles. Bill appreciates the value of and has a passion for great-tasting coffee, which is what led him to a Rocket Espresso machine. "Once you've had good coffee, you can't go back. You get a little spoiled."

His home reflects his artistic personality. It is filled with beautiful works of art, gorgeous colours and interesting textures, and his Rocket complements the space and fits in perfectly. Bill's signature style is "holding my pen loosely" and the attitude of 'loose-ness' allows him to connect to his work; he can draw how he feels more than just what he sees. He describes his creative inspiration as his "heart, connecting to nature". He keeps it simple – just him and his pen and paper (or takeaway coffee cup).

If you want to know more about Rocket Espresso, visit rocket-espresso.co.nz and, if you want to know more about the man behind the Rocket with the loosely held pen, his Instagram handle is [@williamcardenhorton](https://www.instagram.com/williamcardenhorton)



A photograph of a modern bathroom. The walls are a light blue color. A round mirror is mounted on the wall above a wooden vanity. The vanity has a dark countertop and a wooden basin. The floor is covered in a speckled tile. The bathroom is framed by a dark frame, possibly a glass door or partition.

2019 Bathroom Focus

*We bring you a collection of stunning,
design-conscious bathrooms that celebrate
colour, texture and shape.*

Words Leanne Amodeo and Amanda Harkness

Paola Vella and Ellen Bernhardt's new collection of washbasins, mirrors and cabinets for Ex.t captures the Soft Curves trend perfectly.



For so many people, the bathroom is a sanctuary providing retreat from the hustle and bustle of our busy, technology-saturated lives. It will always be that one place that reliably offers welcome repose and somewhere to unwind and literally wash away the stresses of the day. Thankfully, this isn't likely to change any time soon.

Much like a Japanese onsen or luxury day spa, the domestic bathroom is a calm, quiet space that rejuvenates and reinvigorates, and it keeps us clean. The bathtub is enjoying a resurgence in popularity, and designers and architects are utilising the principles of biophilic design to ensure clients have the best bathing experiences possible. Spaces with strong connections to nature, that let in plenty of natural light and are well ventilated hold great appeal, especially in warmer climates.

But it's not always possible to let the outside in and, certainly, not every client wants this. Soft curves and graphic elements are enjoying a moment and the beauty of both these trends is that they work well in any bathroom, regardless of size or scale. And, while minimalism will never go out of style, eclecticism is also being celebrated via maximalist combinations of bold patterns, materials, finishes and colours.

Designers and architects are invested in creating relaxing, visually pleasing sanctuaries, yet they also understand the importance of functionality in this smallest of small spaces. As a result, bathrooms are becoming smarter and digital technology is being utilised to make life a lot easier. Voice-activated mirrors and showerheads that play music will become run-of-the-mill in no time, taking well-being to the next level.

SOFT CURVES

Circular mirrors, rounded edges and curved detailing are popular again, featuring in both residential and hotel bathrooms. Key to the current trend is judicious application, making for elegant schemes with sophisticated art deco leanings.

The two bathrooms in this apartment in Turin by Marcante Testa feature a series of understated curve motifs that read as subtle interventions in a palette of satin finishes, hardy terrazzo and lolly-coloured accents. Photographer Carola Ripamonti.





OASIS

In so many ways, this trend represents the ideal bathroom retreat, where a connection to the outdoors can transport even the weariest person to another place. Letting the outside in is key as is natural materiality and neutral, calming colours.

Planchonella House's bathroom in Queensland by Jesse Bennett Studio is breathtaking in its biophilic approach to design. Letting the outside in is taken to the next level in this project, making it the ideal oasis to escape to for 15 minutes or so. Photographer Sean Fennessy.

RESTRAINED

This trend instils the bathroom with a sense of calm and quiet retreat, where no one finish or detail vies for attention and clean lines and minimal palettes are celebrated.

Challis Avenue Apartment's bathroom by Retallack Thompson is a minimalist study in clean lines and pared-back materiality. The Sydney project's singular colour palette also adds to the overall home's restrained-yet-chic aesthetic. Photographer Katherine Lu.



ECLECTIC

Maximalist in spirit, this trend has a little bit of everything – colour, pattern, texture – and is confident in its contrasting combination of shiny and matte surfaces, intricate and pared-back detailing and high-tech and bespoke styling. Marcante Testa has a way with colour and materiality and its eclectic sensibilities are what make its interiors stand out. The bathrooms in this apartment in Venice hold great appeal, not least for their mix of forms and rainbow palette. Photographer Carola Ripamonti.



GRAPHIC

Not for the faint-hearted, this is a style characterised by bright colour, distinct lines and sharp angles. There's a pop-meets-hard-edge sensibility to this trend, which makes everything look playfully two-dimensional. Coloured grout against white tiles is what gives this bathroom in a small apartment in Madrid by Elii architects its distinct aesthetic. Bright yellow and timber joinery complete a master study in graphic sensibilities. Photographers ImagenSubliminal (Miguel de Guzmán and Rocío Romero).

Matisse's Jeanne Bertenshaw describes some of her favourite European bathroom products.



01



02



01. Patricia Urquiola's Vieques bath for Agape. 02. The Azimut showerhead by GI-RA for Antonio Lupi. 03. Benedini Associati's Memory tapware range, also for Agape.

Designing beautiful bathrooms

"Our clients tend to choose unpretentious, well-designed luxury bathroomware, whether it's for the home, apartment or beach house. It can be anything from sumptuous marble to ascetic functionalism.

The Agape Vieques bath has been a great seller ever since Patricia Urquiola originally designed it for the W Retreat & Spa on the island of Vieques. It works well in New Zealand as it can suit a more-formal Japanese or Scandinavian minimal interior but can equally enhance the aesthetic of a wooden beach house amongst the pōhutukawa.

Benedini Associati's Memory range for Agape also works well with our clients as the tap, in one of several versions, looks like traditional aged brass, yet the classic look hides modern technology. In the single cross-handle version, its progressive tap goes from hot to cold without changing the flow rate.

High-pressure showers are always popular and some of our more adventurous clients are choosing the Azimut showerhead by GI-RA for Antonio Lupi. Either wall or ceiling mounted, each outlet has four compact nozzles that can direct the jet at more than 180 degrees."



03

Described by Italian designer Piero Lissoni as “the most functionally and aesthetically complex room in the house”, the bathroom can also be one of the most rewarding. It’s a place of privacy, and a place for grooming, relaxing and well-being. A special area, as Lissoni points out: “a twilight zone.”

Here, in this space where function and aesthetics meet, individuality is also key. As is the case with our kitchens, our bathrooms, too, are an extension of ourselves and, essentially, another living area within our homes. But with bathroom spaces generally lasting 15–20 years, homeowners need to choose carefully when thinking of a redesign. The material palette for this wet room, which is chiefly stone, wood, tiles and metal, has remained largely unchanged over the centuries, yet various elements have enjoyed making comebacks in recent years.

Wood, and in particular Lawson cypress, not only satisfies our need to connect with nature but its sauna-like fragrance is apposite to the sensorial bathroom experience. The natural warmth of wood also works well to tone down the hard surfaces that surround it, such as glass, metal and stone. When used in a high-moisture area, wood needs to be treated with sealants, such as oil or wax, but some woods, such as cypress, teak and cedar, produce natural oils which make them more resistant to water and decay.

Marble remains a perennial favourite and a resurgence in terrazzo by way of the engineered Marmoreal provides a

burst of kaleidoscope fun. Tiles, also, will always endure and slightly irregular, hand-glazed tiles create an almost zen-like Japanese bathhouse experience while their colourful, geometric counterparts create more-eclectic environments.

Colours have seen a move to earthy tones – again, promoting the biophilic theme and a connection to nature – as well as soft, muted hues, which lend a sophistication to the space. The latter shades have even come off the walls and onto the elegantly shaped washbasins, as seen in the stunning Ceramica Cielo range from Italy.

While some traditionalists will shy away from technology entering the domain of the bathroom, there are others who may embrace it... perhaps not in the form of high-tech toilets with heated seats and warm-water jets or the ubiquitous television screen but, rather, in the more subtle spirit of digital. Crosswater’s Kai shower valve glows red when the shower has heated to your favourite programmed temperature while Aquatica’s Sparkle Top chromotherapy showerhead uses different coloured light to affect the body’s energy, literally transforming a darkened bathroom into Lissoni’s imagined ‘twilight zone’.



Uplifting the spirit

“Bathrooms can be purely functional or they can uplift the spirit and, at our home, we wanted to make washing and bathing an experience.

We chose the materials in our en suite for their robustness and practicality; they also thread through the rest of the home.

In-situ concrete was used for the shower box, and Lawson cypress (an exterior cladding), with its texture and fragrant aroma, for the walls and ceiling, concrete and Lawson cypress for the vanity units, and Vitex duckboard to the shower floor. The main outlook, offering prospect into the landscape to the west, is from the shower. Clear glazing allows views across the valley, with vegetation providing privacy, and a sliding, powder-coated aluminium screen adds to privacy when required, together with external summer sun-shading.

My wife and I don’t use a bath but we have three granddaughters so we made removable slatted covers to place over a standard bath.

This slatted box is useful as a footrest and towel storage when not being used as a bath.”

— *Dave Strachan,*
Strachan Group Architects

Hidden spaces

“Thanks to the restrictions of working with an existing crib, the new addition needed to accommodate an extra bathroom and laundry within the open-plan living, kitchen and dining area.

We wanted to create a quiet, intimate space within this busy part of the home so we placed the bathroom/laundry behind the living room bookcase and fireplace.

The hidden bathroom is accessed through a section of the bookcase that opens to reveal a dark, cave-like space. This feeling of enclosure is emphasised by the large, black wall tiles, small footprint and concrete floors, which continue through from the living area. The brass fittings gain a patina over time and highlight the functionalities within the dark space.

Once inside, you feel quite removed from the happenings in the home.

A high window gives a dramatic shaft of light and view to the mountains beyond while the solid external wall below can be opened to the outside, giving the kids access to the bathroom after a swim in the river or to sit in the oversized bath and stargaze.”

— *Anna Rees-Hofmans,*
Hofmans Architects



Frivolous and fun loving

“This is the family bathroom in a home that we built with designer Hamish Stirrat of Fabricate. We love that this space is a little bit fun and just a touch uncomfortable for some people: ‘skittles come ’80s’ arcade game’. We knew we didn’t want to play it safe and we hadn’t found much inspiration from other bathrooms that we were looking at, which were meant to be ‘on trend’. When the people at Artedomus told us that no one else had been brave enough to use these Rainbow mosaic tiles, that was the clincher. Initially, we’d intended to use them only across the front of the bath but, we loved them so much, the area that they covered just seemed to keep expanding. We kept the rest of the bathroom fairly simple, with the birch ply cabinetry and black floor continuing the theme found in the rest of the house, which has birch ply flooring throughout and black joinery.”
— *Mindy Pilbrow, home-owner*

At one with nature

“The interiors of this bathroom are an extension of the architecture, which influenced the materiality and form of the bathroom. As the roof lifts up, a clerestory band of windows offers glimpses of the surrounding trees and light reflects off the unstained birch ply roof lining. In contrast, the stained walls pick up on the theme of the bush and are in keeping with the palette throughout the rest of the house. A glass mosaic Bisazza tile provides a beautiful translucent quality while the small module shapes the base of the shower and bath without the need to cut tiles. In response to the compact building platform, the bath forms the base of the shower, with a hinged obscure glass wall folding back over the shower rose to allow for bathing. Blades of stainless steel form a shelf in the shower as well as a formed, shaped vanity, while the spotted gum flooring throughout the house continues into the bathroom.”

— Nicola Herbst, *Herbst Architects*



Kawakawa House, Piha. Photograph: Patrick Reynolds.

DIRECTORY: WASHING

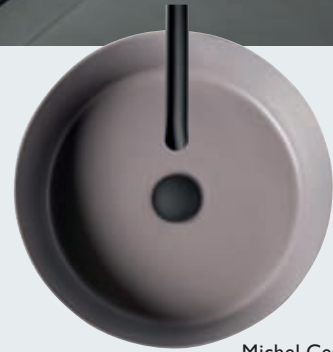
Alice Ceramica SPY Basin

This collection is particularly suited to bathrooms with limited space that, despite tight dimensions, don't want to sacrifice design. aliceceramica.com



Purity Minimal Basin Mixer

This basin mixer in hard-wearing stainless steel is suitable for all pressure types and it comes with a 10-year warranty. foreno.co.nz



Michel Cesar Hatria Happy Hour Slim 07:00 Basin

This anti-bacterial, anti-limescale countertop washbasin has ultra-thin, 5mm edges and is available in cement, anthracite, blackboard, gloss white and matt white. bathco.co.nz



Paini Nove Tapware

These latest Italian designs are available in black matte, gun metal, brushed copper, brushed nickel and chrome. plumbingworld.co.nz



Axor Starck Tap

This minimalist two-handled basin mixer by Philippe Starck for Hansgrohe is available for the basin or the bath tub. matisse.co.nz



Eclipse Swivel Basin Mixer

This striking mirrored black mixer has a functional swivel spout. vodaplumbingware.co.nz

Inda Street Vanity

Perfect for the contemporary bathroom, this Italian-designed wall-hung vanity has sleek lines and an elegant aesthetic. It is available in either single or double bowl format. plumbingworld.co.nz



Toto Alicante Counter Top Vessel

A timeless piece of bathroomware, this basin creates the illusion of space while its simplicity offers increased design flexibility for the bathroom. plumbingworld.co.nz



Omvivo Latis Round Basin

The soft curves and uncomplicated elegance of this basin, here in a pale-blush softskin option, are both timeless and unique. artedomus.co.nz



Flaminia App Toilet

This collection includes a toilet and a bidet. Each has a rounded shape and carefully designed dimensions that provide a new twist on classic bathroom furnishings. matisse.co.nz



Grohe Sensia Arena Toilet

This sleek, smoothly-shaped toilet impresses with innovative functions, such as SkinClean and HygieneClean, for a personalised cleaning routine. robertson.co.nz



Toto Le Muse Back-to-Wall Toilet Suite

With sensual, organic shapes, this back-to-wall toilet suite gives your bathroom a clean and enduring look. plumbingworld.co.nz



Agape Pear WC and Bidet

Patricia Urquiola's Pear toilet and bidet, for Agape, is available in elegant grey and white, understated plain white or a distinctive, stylised pattern. matisse.co.nz



Roca W+W Toilet with Integrated Basin

This space-saving and innovative, integrated washbasin and toilet, designed by Gabriele and Oscar Buratti, filters the wastewater from the basin and reuses it in the discharge of the cistern, thereby reducing water usage. roca.com



Kohler Veil Toilet

Combining both a toilet and a modern-day bidet, the Veil has customised cleansing functions, a precision air dryer and an ergonomically designed motion-activated, heated seat. kohler.co.nz

DIRECTORY: BATHING



Agape Soffione Doccetta KAA Showerhead

Agape's KAA silicone rubber showerhead by Giulio Gianturco adds vibrant orange or stylish grey industrial chic to your morning shower. matisse.co.nz

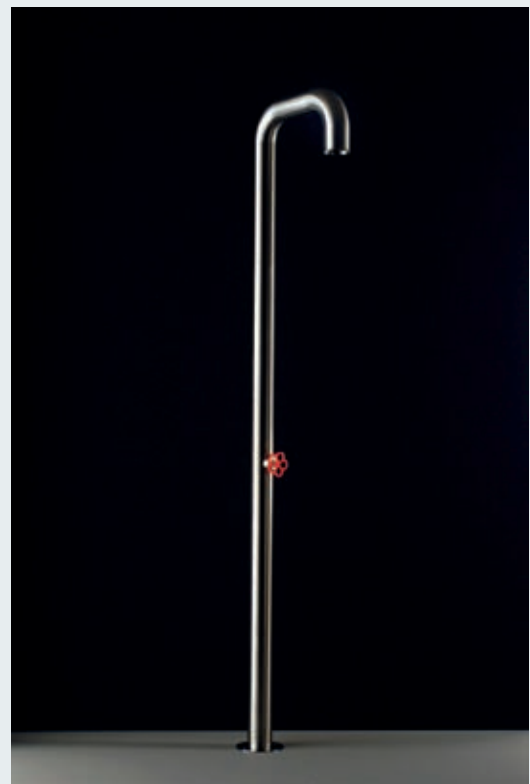


Antoniolupi Reflex Bath

This oval Cristalmoood bath-tub is a poetry of opposites: lightness and solidity, rigour and expressiveness, material and colour. matisse.co.nz

Marcel Wanders Pipe Shower for Boffi

This stainless-steel industrial Pipe series is characterised by the instantly recognisable red handle. boffi.co.nz



Form ClearStone Bath

Available in two lengths, 1500 and 1690mm, this beautifully simple bath has a slim profile and delicate edges. bathco.co.nz



Zucchetti Kos Morphing Bath

A contemporary reinterpretation of the classic 'bath-tub on legs', this sculptural freestanding bath offers innovative aesthetics and a soft, velvety feel. robertson.co.nz



Agape DR Bath-tub

The Agape DR is a tub for two with so many possibilities – a white inner with the exterior in a range of woods, lacquers or unfired clay. matisse.co.nz

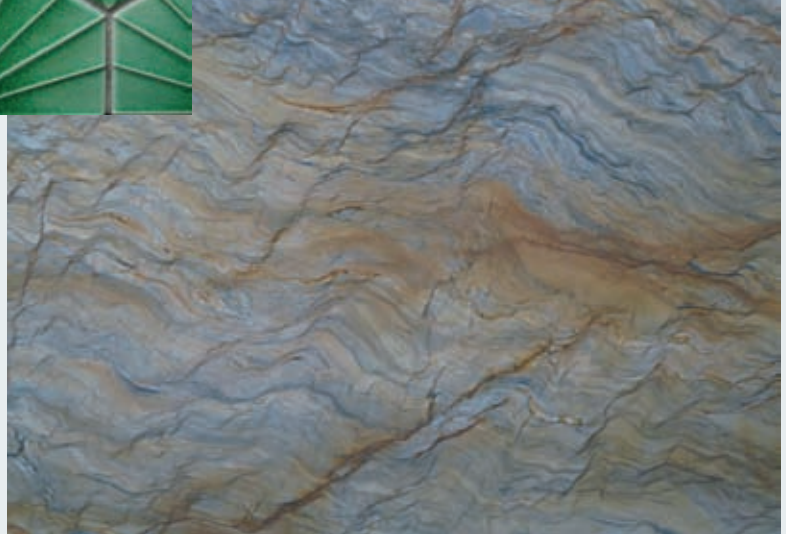
Villa Hexagonal Emerald Tiles

Based on Moroccan concepts, these hand-glazed tiles from New Zealand tile manufacturer Middle Earth Tiles come in a unique selection of colours. middleearthtiles.co.nz



Fusion Wow Quartzite

A rare find, quartzite stone is a hard natural rock, converted from sandstone through heating and tectonic plate compressions. scestoneanddesign.co.nz



Fioranese | Cocci-Deco | Tiles

These glazed porcelain tiles give a present-day touch to an age-old aesthetic approach. artisancollective.co.nz

Fioranese | Cocci-Calce Spaccato Tiles

These 300x300 tiles take us back to the early 20th century when cement was first used as a binder in restructuring work, and pieces of marble and recycled materials were inserted into flooring. artisancollective.co.nz



Calacatta Nuvo Marble

Caesarstone's interpretation of natural Calacatta marble, Calacatta Nuvo™ gives you wide, elegant, cascading grey veins on a white base. caesarstone.co.nz



Resene SpaceCote Flat

This water-borne enamel paint, for both bathroom and kitchen interiors, is designed to bring enamel-style toughness to broadwall areas with a flat finish. resene.co.nz