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August 2013



Experience

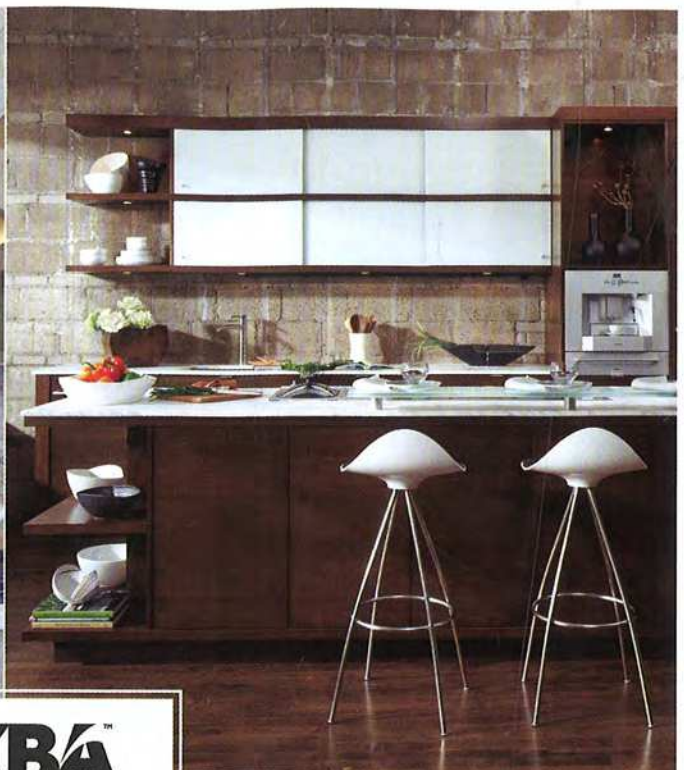
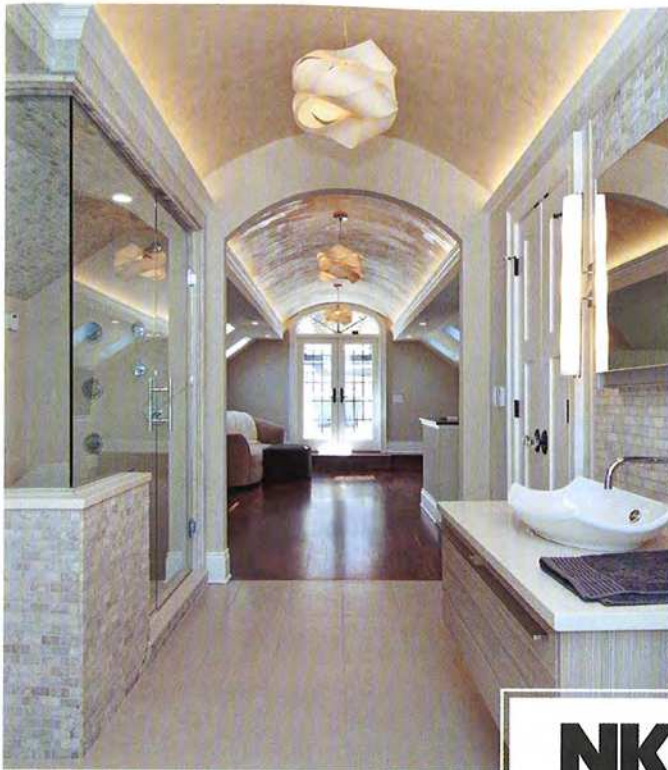
LUXURY

17 HOMES WITH DRAMA & STYLE

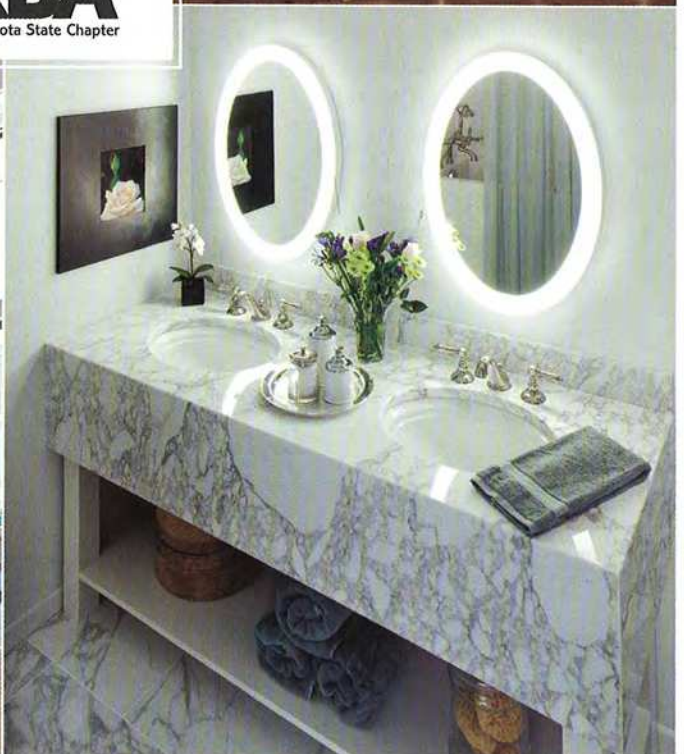
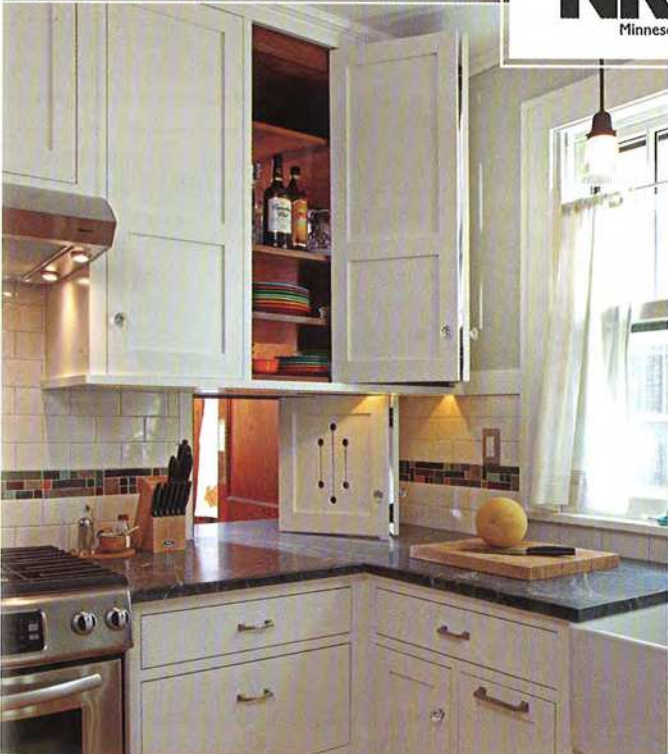
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NKBATM
Minnesota State Chapter



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THE GUIDE
TO GOOD DESIGN 2013



Who We Are

The National Kitchen and Bath Association (NKBA) is a nonprofit trade association that promotes the professionalism of the kitchen and bath industry. Established in 1963 as a network of kitchen dealers, it has grown into the premier association of distributors, retailers, remodelers, manufacturers, fabricators, installers, designers, and other professionals. The NKBA's certification program emphasizes continuing education and career development, and includes designers and professionals in all segments of the kitchen and bath industry. Nearly 50 years after its inception, the NKBA has a membership of more than 500,000 and produces the annual Kitchen & Bath Industry Show (KBIS).



Why Hire a Certified NKBA Professional?

When the cabinets are worn, the countertops are cracked, your appliances are outdated, and your space feels either cramped or inefficient (or both), it's probably time to consider a kitchen or bath remodel. But how do you know where to begin? First of all, don't rush it. Take your time. Collect photos, go to design centers, and make sure you have an idea of what you want. Next, hire an NKBA-certified professional. He or she will take the hassle and headache out of building codes, and help you complete your project on time and within budget. "Kitchens and baths can be complicated spaces," says Jean-Claude Desjardins, Belle Kitchen owner/designer. "Working with a professional will guarantee the proper guidelines are followed, and your space will not only be detailed correctly but will be in sync with your vision." NKBA professionals are:

Skilled. NKBA designers have demonstrated comprehensive knowledge in kitchen and bath design, as well as construction, mechanical, appliances, plumbing, and electrical systems. NKBA professionals have spent years perfecting these skills. The kitchen can be the most complicated room in the home. Where are the gas and plumbing lines? Do you know how to move a wall? Do you have a lighting, countertop, or cabinet plan in place? No? They do.

Professional. NKBA members adhere to strict codes of professional conduct, set by the NKBA for their clients' peace of mind.

Knowledgeable. They remain current on local building codes, safety and environmental regulations, and new products on the market. They take consumer health, safety, and welfare into consideration, as demonstrated in the NKBA Kitchen and Bath Planning Guidelines and Access Standards. In kitchen and bath projects, being "off" by less than an inch can make or break a plan. Even the smallest details count (and there's a lot to know).

In-the-know. NKBA members speak the manufacturer's language and have experience working with installation contractors. They understand how to assess consumers' needs and wants by asking the right questions, and how to create designs that meet (and often exceed) those requirements.

Budget-conscious. Not only do members of NKBA possess the training and tools necessary to bring your project—ranging from a simple upgrade to a major redesign—to successful completion, all while helping you define your style, and finesse the design. They know how to avoid potentially costly mistakes (while keeping you within budget).

Ready to talk to a pro about your remodel? Use NKBA's ProSearch to find an NKBA member or retail store in your local area. www.NKBA.org/ProSearch



Modern Rejuvenation PURE Design Environments

Jaque Bethke, lead designer, Lindsay Knott, co-designer

The goal for this project, based in Eagan, was to create a serene and modern environment that conveyed a connection to the outdoors, while maintaining an intuitive and functional environment for the client's busy life.

The path to modernism is through repetition. While the owner celebrated in a livable interior, the real job was to seamlessly relate the interior and exterior spaces—an organic setting with a rejuvenation vibe—one that starts with transparency and ends with reflection.

The small square footage allocated in this long linear space was a challenge. We had to be creative in finding ways to include a his-and-hers vanity that resembled a department store makeup counter, a concealed stool compartment, and a shower for two.

Drawing on the concept of infinity, we exaggerated the shape of the infinity circle to create a flower-like pattern in a custom mosaic of stone and glass over the

entire back wall and shower walls. We then repeated the pattern onto the etched stool compartment doors. This shape was also our inspiration when selecting hardware and fixtures.

Adding natural light to the space wasn't easy due to the room's required functions. In order to allow light in, and still have the vanity function as a dressing area, we suspended an oval mirror on airplane cable to complement a large picture window at the dressing area. To further reflect light into the space, we added a back-painted glass top to the dressing table, separating the two deep blue granite vanities.

Lastly we constructed a large curvilinear ceiling detail and filled it with glass chainmail. These elements echo the architectural details and further interpret the concept of infinity. The result is a hi-tech, new, modern look with a serene feel, a contemporary color scheme and connection to the outdoors—the perfect environment for rejuvenation.



WHEN AND WHY TO UPDATE YOUR SPACE

The NKBA offers the following tips to help homeowners evaluate the current condition of their kitchen and decide if the time is right for a remodel:

Adequate space. Are you satisfied with the amount of counter space, cabinet space, and floor space in your kitchen? The position of your refrigerator or shape of your counter may be taking away useful workspace. According to the NKBA Kitchen and Bath Planning Guidelines, when replacing a countertop or changing the shape of your kitchen, keep in mind that a total of 158 inches of countertop frontage, 24 inches deep with at least 15 inches of clearance above, is needed to accommodate all uses, including landing area, preparation/work area, and storage.

Traffic flow. If there's more than one cook in your household, you may want to consider making more room around the main workspace. If you enjoy entertaining, you may want an open plan kitchen that allows for more social interaction between the kitchen and other rooms. According to the NKBA Kitchen Planning Guidelines, the width of a walkway should be at least 36 inches and the width of a work aisle should be at least 42 inches for one cook and at least 48 inches for multiple cooks.

Children. Depending on whether or not you have children, and their ages, your kitchen may need to be remodeled. Dated appliances and the design of your kitchen can be hazardous for young kids. If you are in the process of extending your family, you may want more room for cooking larger meals and lower cabinets for easier access to children's food. Based on the NKBA Kitchen Planning Guidelines, microwave ovens should be installed 3 inches below the principal user's shoulder but no more than 54 inches above the floor to avoid accidents. The NKBA also suggests avoiding sharp corners on countertops with kids around.

Efficiency. If your appliances are dated, they may be costing you more money than you expect. New technological advances with dishwashers, disposals, and refrigerators could save you a considerable amount of money and may be well worth the investment. For example, purchasing a dishwasher with low-energy consumption, delay timer, and economy cycle or half-load button will result in saving water and money.

Universal Design. Is your kitchen accessible to individuals with disabilities? Will you be able to use your kitchen safely as you get older? Considering these issues is vital in a kitchen remodel. Employing Universal Design techniques in the remodel will help assure that the space is accessible to or useable by all people, regardless of age, size, or physical ability without the need for adaptation or specialized design later on.

Location. Thinking about adding a deck to the side or back of your house? Incorporating a door into the layout of your kitchen would be a great convenience for outdoor entertaining. You also may want to rearrange the position of windows to allow more or less sunlight or to watch your children play in the yard. When rearranging the layout of your kitchen, according to the NKBA guidelines, the clear opening of a doorway should be at least 32 inches wide, which would require a minimum of a 2-foot, 10-inch door. Keep in mind that a cooking surface should never be located under an operable window.

Before you remodel your kitchen, make a checklist of major and minor problems and keep notes of the features you dislike and like the most. When it comes time to sit down with a qualified kitchen and bath designer, they'll know exactly how to suit your needs, taste, and style. For more information about remodeling and the safety of your kitchen, and to find a qualified NKBA professional, visit www.nkba.org or call NKBA Customer Service at (800) THE-NKBA.



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THE GUIDE
TO GOOD DESIGN 2013

NKBA Designations: A Guide to Understanding those Initials

What do all those letters mean after a person's title? Most people know that MD means medical doctor when they see it listed after a name, but what about AKBD, CKD, CMKBD, or CKBP? The designations separate the certified kitchen designers from those without certification—showing that an NKBA professional has undergone in-depth testing, has extensive industry experience, and meets continuing education requirements.

AKBD: Associate Kitchen and Bath Designer

What it means: You're hiring a certified professional, knowledgeable in product selection, space planning, materials, and finishes.

Requirements: Must document a minimum of two years experience; at least one year within the kitchen/bath industry. Must earn a minimum of 30 hours of NKBA education or approved college coursework.

CKD/CBD: Certified Kitchen or Bath Designer

What it means: You're hiring a specialist who can help design, plan, and implement residential kitchen and bath projects, with proven knowledge of technical and communication skills required to succeed in the field.

Requirements: Must document a minimum of seven years of experience; a minimum of three years specifically from full-time residential kitchen/bath experience, including design execution or project management. The remaining four years can consist of full-time kitchen/bath design or related industry experience. Must earn a minimum of 60 hours of NKBA education or NKBA approved college coursework.

CMKBD: Certified Master Kitchen and Bath Designer

What it means/requirements: You're hiring a professional who has not only their CKD and CBD certifications, but an additional 10 years of experience in the industry beyond the date of their first certification—a minimum of 17 years of industry experience—and must also meet specific educational requirements.

CKBP: Certified Kitchen & Bath Professional

What it means: This is the NKBA's only non-design oriented certification; one that benefits everyone in the industry (residential construction, general business, materials and product specialists, project managers).

Requirements: Must prove a high level of proficiency in professional knowledge, industry experience, and education in the kitchen and bath industry. Must document a minimum of five years industry experience and earn a minimum of 40 hours of NKBA education or approved college coursework.



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INSIDE ADVICE

PROMOTION



Rosemary Merrill
Partner & principal designer

CASA VERDE DESIGN

How do I know my kitchen won't look dated in a few years?

A kitchen of any size is a big investment—you should love it! Not just today, but for years to come.

Working with a professional kitchen designer can save you from unnecessary regret and expense by guiding you through the entire process. He or she can lead you to the timeless design that is authentic to the architecture of your home, and help you select products that are both beautiful and functional.

Planning is everything! Great kitchen design doesn't happen by accident. By taking the time to plan your project—and carefully considering all of your options—you will have invested in a kitchen that will easily stand the test of time. With a focus on design, quality, craftsmanship, and your family's lifestyle, your new kitchen will truly reflect who you are long into the future.

Casa Verde Design was established in 2007 by partners Susan Brunn, Rosemary Merrill, and Susan Jacobs who together share a passion for good design. Casa Verde's beautiful showroom was the first recipient of the Sub-Zero Wolf Best Sustainable "Green" Kitchen design award and was named "Showroom of the Year" by Kitchen & Bath Business Magazine.

Casa Verde Design
www.casaverdedesign.com
612-353-4401

THE GUIDE TO GOOD DESIGN 2013



2013 Kitchen and Bath Style Report

The NKBA's annual design trends survey included feedback from hundreds of member-designers from the U.S. and Canada, reporting on materials, product types, and design styles widely used in 2012.

Gray color schemes in both kitchens and baths have witnessed a dramatic escalation since 2010, particularly over the past year. Used currently in 55 percent of kitchens and 56 percent of bathrooms, shades of gray are growing in appeal, creating chic, sophisticated spaces.

Continuing an important trend from last year, **transitional-style kitchens and baths** have clearly surpassed traditional styles, a longstanding favorite until 2012.

While the use of **quartz finishes** was in slight decline last year, it has surfaced as a clear trendsetter this year, coming in at a close second to granite.

White painted cabinetry has stayed on top of the chart. Given its remarkable upward climb over the past three years, it's clearly no fad. The popularity of white painted cabinetry jumped from 47 to 59 percent in 2012, and further increased to 67 percent this year.

The preference for **glass backsplashes** has grown dramatically over the past three years: from 42 percent in 2010 to 64 percent this year. At the same time, while natural stone tile showed consistent growth from 2011 and 2012, usage dropped from 60 to 55 percent in the latest survey. Ceramic or porcelain tiles held a top position for the third consecutive year.

Energy-efficient LED lighting is widely used in both the U.S. and Canada. As consumer awareness of energy efficiency has increased, it comes as no surprise that light-emitting diode—or LED—lighting is being used by more designers.

PHOTO BY KAREN MELVIN PHOTOGRAPHY, COURTESY OF CASA VERDE DESIGN



Growing in popularity are **touch-activated faucets**, although pullout faucets are still in the top position.

When it comes to faucet finishes in kitchens, **satin nickel** has been on top since 2011. Bronze or oil-rubbed bronze finishes are also popular.

Ceramic or porcelain tile flooring remains the most popular of all floor materials, with natural stone tiles coming in second.

Undermount sinks are in a slight decline, but still the most popular type of lavatory sink selected.

CONTACT US:



NKBA Minnesota Chapter
www.nkbamn.org



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