

The Latest in Tile

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Photo: Courtesy of Saloni (www.saloni.com)



A Wonderful RDI Client Testimonial

To Our New Friends At Remodeling Designs,

I am writing on behalf of my wife, Lisa, and myself to once again thank you for the expert work you did on the new kitchen in our home in Sidney. Having lived in our home since 1994, we had long dreamed of replacing our 1978 kitchen. From the moment we started talking to you; we knew that you had the expertise, the knowledge, the vision, and the care to help us create the kitchen of our dreams. It may sound silly but you have truly changed our lives with a kitchen that is beautiful, spacious, well-designed, and tremendously functional.

We still have to pinch ourselves as a reminder that no longer do we have a kitchen that is difficult to even be in at the same time, let alone so frustrating to try to entertain and serve friends and family out of. Whenever we're in our new kitchen, we're reminded of just what a great job you did. We had great fun as Beth, Erich, and Christine made recommendations that just "worked" while seeking out and listening to our ideas and incorporating them as well. Things like the "floating" countertop and the special coffee area have worked out so well and, you were right—the center island with built-in sink is indeed our most-used prep area. And, thanks for figuring out how to position the island sink a little differently from what would have been the "norm"—it works wonderfully!

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The Latest in Tile

Tile has always been a versatile product, but its versatility has been increasing steadily over the last several years because of new technology. Tile of Spain presented global design trends at CEVISAMA 2018, the International Fair for Ceramic Tiles and Bathroom Furnishings in Valencia, Spain. Coverings 2018, the largest international tile and stone show in North America, also featured amazing innovations in tile. Here are some of the exciting revelations brought out during the shows.

Due to the latest 3-D digital printing technology, tile has taken on the convincing look and form of many other materials that are three dimensional—from vintage stone slabs, terrazzo, and cork to industrial-look concrete, rusty Cor-Ten steel, and rough hardwood boards. It is difficult to see the difference between the tile and the material it mimics, but the advantages of choosing tile are many: it is durable, hypoallergenic, mold and mildew resistant, and easy to clean. Tile can also be used in locations and for purposes that were previously unimaginable.

Some of the new fashionable statements tile is making today include: small, square, rustic tile in place of subway tile; glossy ink added to terrazzo-look tile to make the chips glossy with a patina around the edges; wallpaper inspired tile designs on large-format thin slabs that can reach from floor to ceiling; cleaner, less-distressed concrete looks that are more refined. Artisan craft tiles offer no two pieces that are alike—different chemicals are added to each tile so the radiance of the finishes are distinct. Metallic effects on tile, such as gold and platinum, are still very popular. A “sinking ink” process produces a heightened result in tile with relief.

Marble and stone looks for tile continue to be in style, but the appearance is more natural and realistic than ever before. The veining in tile that perfectly mimics the look and feel of marble is getting softer, finer, more diffused and more sophisticated. Multiple finishes are available, going beyond the usual high gloss.



Photo: Courtesy of Natucer
(www.natucer.es/en/index)

Unlike actual stone, the benefit of porcelain tile is that it can be used for any application since it is nonporous and stain resistant.

Internationally, the classic tile colors of white, gray and black are still very much in style. In addition, saturated earth tone colors—ochers, terra cottas, blues and greens—are on the upswing in Spain and Italy, some of the major tile manufacturers that import to the U.S. It is expected that these colors soon will become popular among designers and homeowners in our country as well. Creamy, off-white tones are on a comeback as well.

The technologically advanced manufacturing processes allow tile to combine function and efficiency. For example, large porcelain tiles are now designed to be used as floors, wall surfaces and countertops—an all-in-one surface for kitchens and bathrooms. The tile is produced in a variety of thicknesses, since walls, indoor flooring and outdoor flooring have different requirements. A smooth porcelain countertop can serve as an induction cooktop when an induction warmer is mounted under the surface. There is no resin in the tile, so this same countertop may be used to prep, cook and eat food.

Anti-slip technology allows safe placement of tile on floors in kitchens, bathrooms, high traffic areas and outdoor spaces. For a smooth transition between indoor and outdoor spaces, the tile colors can be identical—it is simply the texture that changes. New anti-slip technology allows the tile to feel quite smooth when it is dry. The tile feels fine on bare feet; not the harsh sandpaper feel of traditional anti-slip tile. However, when the tile is wet a change is created in the body of the tile. The hydrophilic properties are changed in water so that the tile achieves a higher slip resistance.



Photo: Courtesy of Aparici (<http://www.aparici.com/en/>)



Photo: Courtesy of Vives (www.vivesceramica.com)



Photo: Courtesy of Ann Sacks (www.annsacks.com)

Island of the Future

An island is one of the most highly desired features homeowners want in their remodeled kitchens. This new Monogram Kitchen Island concept is a multifunctional glass-ceramic surface that will provide plenty of space to cook, eat, connect, and party all in one elegant and expertly engineered unit. The luxury appliance will launch by 2019.

The Kitchen Island includes a 36-inch Monogram five burner induction cooktop with built-in glide-touch controls concealed beneath a 94-inch by 43-inch sheet of black glass-ceramic. Glass-ceramic is a unique material that is easy to clean, cool to the touch, and with near-zero thermal expansion. An optional wireless cooking probe is available for sous vide cooking. A warming zone in the Kitchen Island can warm appetizers or keep chocolate at the perfect temperature for fondue. The glass-ceramic also has wireless charging capabilities in spots throughout that can power cordless countertop appliances, as well as charge mobile devices.

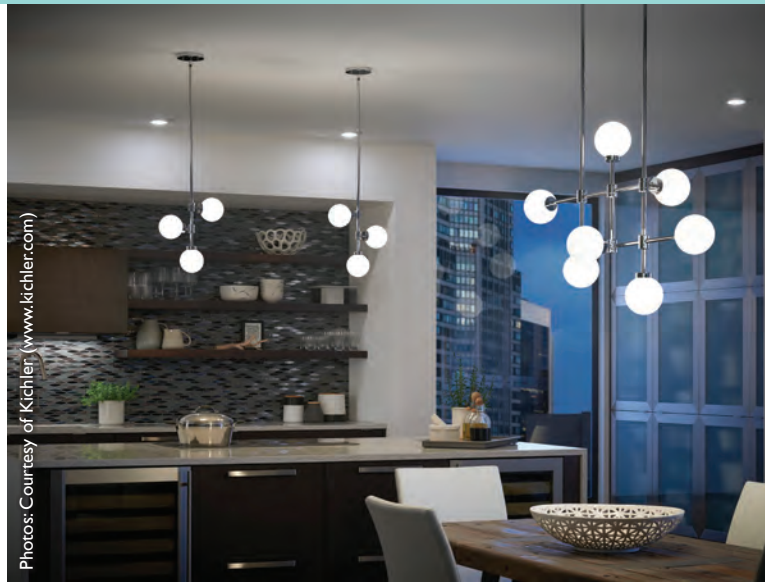


DECORATIVE ISLAND PENDANTS

One of the most important aspects of your kitchen is the lighting. Without appropriate lighting, it is difficult to perform the prep work, cooking and clean up that your busy kitchen requires. Be sure to include overall general lighting that brightens the kitchen, eliminating dark corners. Recessed ceiling lights, as well as natural daylighting from large windows and skylights, perform this function. Under cabinet energy efficient LED strip lights, along with pendants installed over the island, focus directly on the tasks at hand—illuminating your work space.

Beyond functioning as task lighting, island pendants also add a decorative touch to your kitchen. They provide you the possibility of personalizing and transforming the space, making a statement that enhances your existing design. Today's light fixtures are designed to appeal to a multitude of tastes—ranging from updated traditional and mid-century modern to vintage industrial and contemporary. Current innovative trends in decorative lighting fixtures feature bold asymmetrical and mixed-metal designs (especially natural brass and black), and rich gold finishes. Depth, dimension and geometric interest come together to give these light fixtures an uncommon style.

"We're continuing to see formal spaces in the home phasing out and consumers morphing large gathering rooms together," says Tia Bahr, senior product manager at Kichler. "This allows an opportunity for them to tap into their personal style with unconventional lighting options—the use of larger linear chandeliers or oversized pendants—in these spaces."



RDI Client Testimonial

To Our Clients and Friends

The Latest in Tile

Island of the Future



Remodeling Designs, Inc.
3720 Benner Road
Miamisburg, OH 45342

EXPECT MORE, AND GET IT!

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To Our Loyal Clients and Friends.

Thank you all for the amazing support you've shown Remodeling Designs, Inc. over the last 28 years. The Open House on August 25th was no different. We, as a company, were overwhelmed by the number of past and current clients, friends, and family who came to celebrate our new location. Our new offices and showroom will create an endless amount of opportunities and we can't wait to share them with you! You are the reason we come to work every day and love what we do. Thank you!

Love,
The Remodeling Designs, Inc. Team



A Wonderful RDI Client Testimonial

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Throughout the project, Gary kept things neat, clean, and orderly. He was always accommodating of our needs and our dogs fell in love with him. He painstakingly measured and thought things through and consulted with us, making some great recommendations along the way. He brought our dreams to reality as he opened up our formerly cut-up kitchen, dinette, and pantry area and created a space that flows well with plenty of room for ourselves and guests. He is a gem; communication was great and, most importantly, no surprises!

In my 30+ year career, I have worked with thousands of contractors from across the globe. Your company treated us exactly like I teach other contractors to work with their clients and to handle jobsites. You are indeed "the model" when it comes to professional contractors who know their trade and care about their customers, always doing what is right. I can't imagine that anyone would ever be anything but 100% pleased and even over-the-top ecstatic after working with you.

Thank you again. Please feel free to stop by anytime, and also feel free to have your potential clients call us.

Warmest Regards,
Todd Miller