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 HOMEWORK DESIGN STUDIO

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KITCHENS TAKE CENTRE STAGE

It's the hub of activity, the place in your home where everyone seems to gather—where friends and family are always welcome to share good food and good times. This concept has become the essence of the modern-day kitchen design. We live in our kitchens, so we want them to be rooms we enjoy.

A great kitchen is all about a well-planned space that makes cooking a completely interactive experience among family and friends. The popular open-plan concept puts the kitchen at centre stage in the home, with meal preparation, serving and clean up playing lead roles and providing the entertainment. This means that planning and design choices for the kitchen are wide-reaching and extend to influence colour, material and even the fabric and upholstered pieces in surrounding rooms.

No wonder then that the kitchen is the room most often redone in the home, even though remodelling a kitchen is more expensive than just about any other home improvement project.

If you prefer a kitchen with white cabinetry, I would suggest glass mosaic tiles with different tones of dark greys and clean muted tones—grey is chic and contemporary and picks up the colour of the stainless steel appliances. Black countertops would look elegant and be a great contrast to the white or to keep the kitchen soft, light grey quartz with a silvery fleck that will tie into the backsplash and the appliances will give the space a sense of cohesion. To balance and ground the space, a contrasting colour for the “island,” if applicable, is a great way to bring some visual interest to the space and identify it as the singular separate piece in the room. →



Lighting is critical in designing a kitchen. There must be sufficient light over preparation areas, the sink and range; under-cabinet lights can be a luxury that will bring your backsplash to life.

Dark cabinetry is very “now,” a contemporary choice that has long-term aesthetic value. Paired with either contrasting light counters or dark, in materials such as coloured granite, quartz or solid-surface, it will dictate a warm, modern feel. The trick here is to balance the dark with some light; backsplashes with tones of steel, copper and bronze in glass or metal will bring dimension, reflect light and play off of the dark tones of the cabinets and/or counters. Stainless steel appliances have been the “go to” in design for a while now, but new highly polished finishes in black and white are heavy competitors in choices recently.

There are so many options for your kitchen available right here in Trinidad and Tobago. Everything from a range of counter choices, hardware, appliances, cabinetry (custom or modular), tiles, sinks, fixtures—all to suit any budget. The goal is just putting all those pieces together correctly to bring your individual kitchen to life.

In the end, your home always has a story to tell, from the architecture, the location, the lighting (artificial and natural) and other elements, all come together to tell the story of what would bring the home harmony and balance. It's that story a designer listens to and the final chapter usually has a happy and inspired client.

