

Goggans LLC Homefront

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The Perfect Kitchen

What is the "ideal" kitchen? According to a recent study*, many consumers describe it as open, warm, comfortable, organized, family-oriented, bright, happy and homey. The most-wanted appliance upgrade in a kitchen is a cooktop with a built-in grill, wok, griddle or rotisserie attachment. Other desired amenities include commercial-grade appliances, a large dishwasher to accommodate larger dishes, and a double oven. A kitchen island with a cooktop stove is another popular amenity for many homeowners.

Men and women have different opinions about the ideal kitchen. Men tend to view appliance purchases as status symbols, while women often see them as strictly functional pieces. Cutting-edge technologies, such as TV screens built into appliances, also appeal more to men than to women. When asked which single item they would be willing to splurge on if they were remodeling their kitchen, consumers named cabinets as their top choice, followed by range/oven/cooktop, countertops, refrigerator, a kitchen island and flooring.

Source: Kitchen Remodelers 360 Report, Research and Markets, October 2007

Did YOU Know

An open fireplace damper can let as much as **8 PERCENT** of your heat go up the chimney? According to the National Association of Home Builders, warmth from a fire is confined only to the room that has the fireplace and does not radiate throughout the house. In fact, a considerable amount of heated air from other parts of the house can go wastefully up the chimney when a fireplace is in use.

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Have you ever walked into a room and felt an immediate sense of calm, or felt energized and cheerful? Research has shown that color can affect your mood, appetite and energy.

Warm colors, like red, orange and yellow, evoke images associated with heat, such as sunlight and fire. Cool colors, such as blue, green and violet, are associated with landscapes and the ocean. The experts from the Rohm and Haas Paint Quality Institute say knowing how colors affect you can help you determine which colors are best for your home.

RED produces feelings of energy, passion and intimacy. It can raise your heart rate and blood pressure. Because it also stimulates the appetite, it's a good choice for dining rooms.

ORANGE also warms a room but with less drama. It's more friendly and welcoming than its fiery cousin. Orange works well in living rooms and family rooms as well as children's bedrooms.

YELLOW grabs attention and can lift one's mood. It helps light up a poorly lit foyer or hallway. But yellow that is too bright or too strong can also create anxiety in infants, young children or the elderly.

BLUE soothes and relaxes, so it's an ideal bedroom color choice for adults and children. It also suppresses the appetite, which is why you'll rarely see it in the kitchen or dining room.

GREEN is often associated with nature and is at home anywhere in the house. Light greens work well in baths and living rooms, and mid-range greens are a great accent for kitchens and dining rooms.

VIOLET gets a favorable response from children, but not from adults. Children's bedrooms and play areas may be the best places to experiment with this color family.

DID YOU KNOW?

Familiar household product WD-40 has more than 2,000 uses, including cleaning stainless steel appliances, keeping metal wire screens rust-free, removing grime from tile-floor grout and more.

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Seasons Greetings

*To a joyful present and a well remembered past.
Best wishes for happy holidays and a magnificent New Year.*