

The Change Order Quarterly

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Just Faux Looks

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Anthea ceramic tile is inspired by elegant wallpaper-style designs.

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Jewelry for Cabinets

Decorative cabinet hardware is often referred to as “jewelry for cabinets.” Most likely you have noticed how a great necklace can set off a dress to its best advantage. In the same way, the hardware you select has a significant design impact on your cabinets. It will either enhance their appearance, or do just the opposite. Therefore, it is important not to make hardware selection a last minute decision. Take the time to consider whether the hardware is simply calling attention to itself, or is it intensifying the beauty of the cabinets.

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Baldwin Hardware introduces five new families to its hardware portfolio

Spring is Here!

Skip, hop and hatch your way into spring with the kitchen transformation you've been saving for! It's always easy to find reasons not to do something, but **Forest Glen Construction** is here to tell you that remodeling your kitchen will add value and new life into the central room in your home.

Our goal is to make your existing space more functional and better suited for the needs of your family. A great example comes from our clients in Deerfield. Their Cape Cod style home received a complete renovation featuring oak hardwood floors throughout the dining and living rooms, painted birch cabinets, a subway tile backsplash with an embellished running bond pattern and granite counter tops.

With help from our design team, our clients were able to make informed decisions about the products they selected for their kitchen and we worked to understand what they wanted for their dream kitchen. Forest Glen stayed within their budget and the project was finished before the expected completion date.

To learn more about this project, visit our website and hear from them, in their own words, about their experience working with Forest Glen.
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Just Faux Looks

CERSAIE is the biggest trade show of the year for ceramic tiles and bathroom furnishings, serving as a hub for displaying all the latest technological and aesthetic innovations. Each September, the exhibition draws designers, architects and other building professionals from all over the world to Bologna, Italy to see the latest trends in tile— from flooring to interior walls, exterior siding and roofing.

This was definitely *the* year of the faux-look tile at CERSAIE. During the past couple of years, ceramic tile with the look of wood planks created a lot of buzz at the show, and is now a popular trend in the U.S. residential market for covering floors and walls. It is often laid out in a parquet pattern that lends elegance to a room, while having the advantages of higher durability and easier maintenance over wood parquet.

In September, however, it was evident that ceramic wood planks have entered into a new phase of development, with even more complex textures and colors that enhance their realism. Tile designs include everything from rustic or whitewashed wood, to wood planks that have been altered in their appearance by the effects of cement, plaster, varnish or even fermenting wine. Standard size offerings were broadened, so that ceramic wood planks are now available in sizes that range up to six feet in length, and can be as thin as 5 mm.



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

Vodevil tile has a classic feel with its textile-like patchwork patterns.



Photo: Courtesy of Imola Ceramica (www.imolaceramica.com)

Creative Concrete re-interprets, in porcelain tile, the various methods of working concrete

For several years, ceramic tile has been successfully imitating glossy marble slabs and pitted ancient stones. The offerings at CERSAIE were more sophisticated than ever. As one example, Monocibec presented “Abbey,” a stone-look ceramic tile with colors *Canterbury*, *Westminster* and *Chuny* that specifically correspond to famous abbeys.

Ceramic tile innovation also took several steps forward by branching out into a variety of new faux-look directions for this year. Most noticeable were elegant wallpaper patterns, decorative patchwork collections, and the industrial look of concrete pavers. Again, several of the designs take on the appearance of vintage surfaces and textures. This is a comfortable look that integrates something new and exciting with the cozy and familiar, bringing back memories of times gone by. All this reflects the current interest among homeowners for time-worn materials that also offer low-maintenance. Faux-look ceramic tile has become a great alternative for wood flooring in areas where moisture is a concern, such as in a kitchen or bath.



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

Bunker wood plank tile is a fusion between industrial and vintage styles



Photo: Courtesy of Häfele (www.hafele.com/us)

IN GOOD TASTE

Wine Cellars

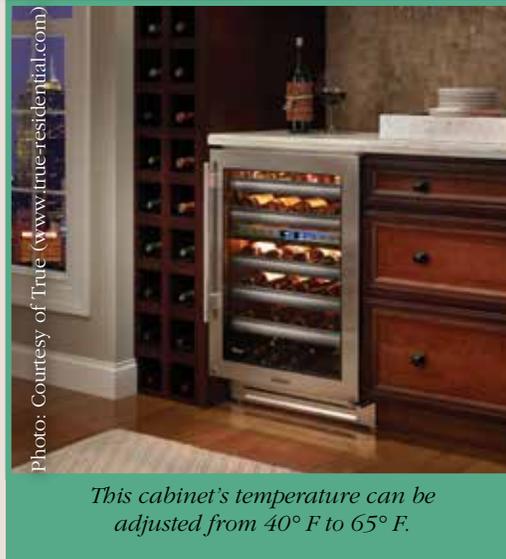
A recent Gallup poll indicates that among alcohol drinkers in the U.S., beer has declined in popularity over the past two decades, while wine has been gaining. Of those polled, 36% say they drink beer most often, while 35% prefer wine. This rise in wine consumption is due to several factors, including the known health benefits of red wine and the increased availability of high quality, less expensive domestic wines.

The burgeoning preference for wine has spawned a related trend: *a greater number of homeowners are including wine storage as a part of their home remodeling projects.*

If your appetite for wine is limited to serving it with your evening meals or during special family celebrations at your home, installing an under-counter refrigerated wine cabinet should be sufficient for your needs.

However, if you regularly host large social gatherings at home, or if you simply find yourself buying and collecting wine at a rate too vigorous for a wine cabinet, you should consider building a temperature-controlled wine cellar. As the name indicates, the traditional location for wine storage for centuries has been in the cellar where temperatures are cool and light does not penetrate. In today's homes, wine cellars are often built in basements, but they may be located most anywhere, as long as the room is built with the proper infrastructure.

The elements most likely to cause damage to your wine are light, fluctuating temperatures, humidity and vibration. Wine should be stored at a constant temperature of 55° F and a humidity level between 50-80 percent. This ensures that the wine is kept cool and the corks do not dry out.



This cabinet's temperature can be adjusted from 40° F to 65° F.

A high quality refrigerated wine cabinet is designed to provide these optimum conditions for your wine. A wine cellar must also provide these conditions to protect the investment you have made in your sizable wine collection. First of all, select a location that is far away from anything that might create vibrations, such as your washer and dryer. The space must be insulated all around, including the floor and ceiling. A properly sized refrigeration unit must be installed, and the entrance to the wine cellar must have a tight seal to maintain control of the environment. The floor should have a hard surface—such as hardwood, stone or tile—to prevent the formation of mold or mildew. Lighting should be recessed and dimmable.

If you enjoy inviting your guests to your wine cellar for wine tastings, consider creating a separate wine-tasting room just outside the entrance. The temperature there will be more pleasant, and you will have extra space for comfortable seating.



The wine-tasting room provides a view of the refrigerated wine cellar through glass doors.

Crafting Memories

Over the past several years, scrapbooking has gotten to be a favorite pastime for young and old, as families enjoy reliving their special moments. Many families keep stacks of scrapbooking materials on their kitchen countertops or spread out on the bed in the guest room. This workspace is inadequate, however, and materials must be picked up and moved whenever the homeowners are preparing a big meal or when guests arrive. If you are busy each week with a favorite hobby or two—whether scrapbooking or something else—chances are you wish for a dedicated work and storage space for those activities. You need a craft room.

Your craft room can benefit from all the innovative storage solutions that have been developed for today's kitchens. Wide, full-extension drawers with adjustable dividers provide easily accessible storage for a variety of cardstock and patterned papers. Optimize a blind corner with a swing-out or a lazy susan to bring your adhesives into full view. Include a few baskets for miscellaneous items of odd shapes and sizes, such as your paper trimmer. Modular PVC slatwall panels with brackets and hooks offer hanging storage for scissors, tape and decorative ribbons.

Give yourself a generous, low-maintenance countertop work surface, with knee space underneath. Include plentiful task lighting, in addition to the general ambient room lighting. LED lights inside your cabinets will assist you in locating all your materials quickly. Happy scrapbooking!

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Jewelry for Cabinets

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Hardware is also one of the ways you can personalize your cabinets. The old rules that everything has to match no longer apply. Today, everything is about mixing it up; finding things that you love and pulling it all together to express your own personal style. How refreshing it is to know that no one else will bring together the exact same combination of cabinets and pulls that you choose for your kitchen.

Hardware designers and manufacturers have been following this trend for eclecticism, and it has influenced their latest collections. We asked PJ Rosch, brand manager for Baldwin Hardware, what are the overall directions for decorative cabinet hardware. "One of the biggest trends we're seeing across all generations of buyers is a need



Cairo is one of four new collections from Hardware Resources

Photo: Courtesy of Hardware Resources (www.hardwareresources.com)



Three new transitional patterns in the Chateau Collection by Top Knobs

Photo: Courtesy of Top Knobs (www.topknobs.com)



Modern Metro is a new addition to Top Knobs' Stainless Steel Collection

Photo: Courtesy of Top Knobs (www.topknobs.com)

to personalize the home. This may mean teaming a sleek, modern pull with a traditional finish, such as brass, or a traditionally, detailed knob in a modern finish such as polished nickel. Eclectic interiors are thriving in interior design, and we expect homeowners to continue to push the intersection of modern and traditional aesthetics." Warren Ramsland, president of Top Knobs, concurs. "Right now it's all going contemporary/transitional. Brushed satin nickel, polished chrome finishes are hot. Textured shapes. It's modern, but not minimal."

Another important aspect to consider when choosing cabinet hardware is how it feels to your hand when you grasp a knob or a pull. You want the hardware to fit the size of your hand and be comfortable to your touch. Test out your selections. If you dislike the sensation of sharp edges or rough surfaces, you should continue your search. Also, make certain that the hardware projects out from the cabinet far enough to protect the cabinet finish from sharp fingernails or oil from your fingers, which over time can damage the look of your cabinets.



Botero is Du Verre Hardware's latest introduction

Photo: Courtesy of Du Verre Hardware (www.duverre.com)