

kitchens take CENTER STAGE IN HOMES

By Robin Wilson



ABOUT ROBIN WILSON

Robin Wilson is an eco-friendly interior designer and a lifestyle brand with products sold at Bed Bath & Beyond and is the first woman with a branded line of custom kitchen & bath cabinetry sold at over 500 Holiday Kitchens dealers nationwide. She is an ambassador to the Asthma & Allergy Foundation of America and author of Kennedy Green House (Greenleaf, 2010). She regularly appears on the speakers circuit, on television and offers commentary in print on wellness, sustainability and allergy & asthma issues. Learn more at www.robinwilsonhome.com

Kitchens were once in the rear of the home and hidden away. Today, the kitchen takes center stage as the “hearth of the home” and earns a spot as the gathering place where everyone meets to celebrate holidays.

From classic to modern design, the kitchen is like a good outfit – the core pieces are the cabinetry and countertops – and the accessories, including tile, paint colors, faucet fixtures and lighting selections can ensure that you achieve the look you want to show everyone who will gather in your space for many special moments over the years.

One can shop at a big-box retailer, and hope that the kitchen team understands your architectural plans, but my recommendation is that you visit a local kitchen dealer who has received a Certified Kitchen Designer (CKD) credential. This individual will be able to assess your space rapidly and find the most cost-effective solutions for each linear foot of the kitchen. As well, many local dealers have many different brands that they work with, and maybe one brand has more options within your budget.

ECO-FRIENDLY CABINETRY

One of my favorite kitchen company brands is Holiday Kitchens (www.holidaykitchens.com), which is made in the USA and sold at over 500 independent dealers around the country. This company has been around since 1947 and believes in the quality of their products so much that they offer a lifetime warranty. And they have sustainability principles – planting two trees for every one used in the manufacturing process.

Sacre Coeur

Since this is the room that is the core of the health and wellness of your lifestyle, you must ensure that the following basics are utilized

- * Low-to-no VOC paints and stains
- * Anti-bacterial properties in countertops
- * Undermount sink to prevent bacteria buildup
- * Non-formaldehyde adhesives for cabinetry
- * Water-sense certified plumbing fixtures
- * Energy star appliances, including a range hood to remove indoor air pollution
- * Energy efficient lighting
[WE SUGGEST LED LIGHTS]
- * Pot drawers that that pull out
[TO SAVE YOUR BACK!]
- * Recycle and trash bin built-in