

SPECIAL REPORT: The 50 Best Products for Kitchens & Baths

Metropolitan Home

From Easy Upgrades to Extreme Makeovers

RENOVATE!



A California classic makes a comeback, p. 100.



FURNITURE:
The Buzz
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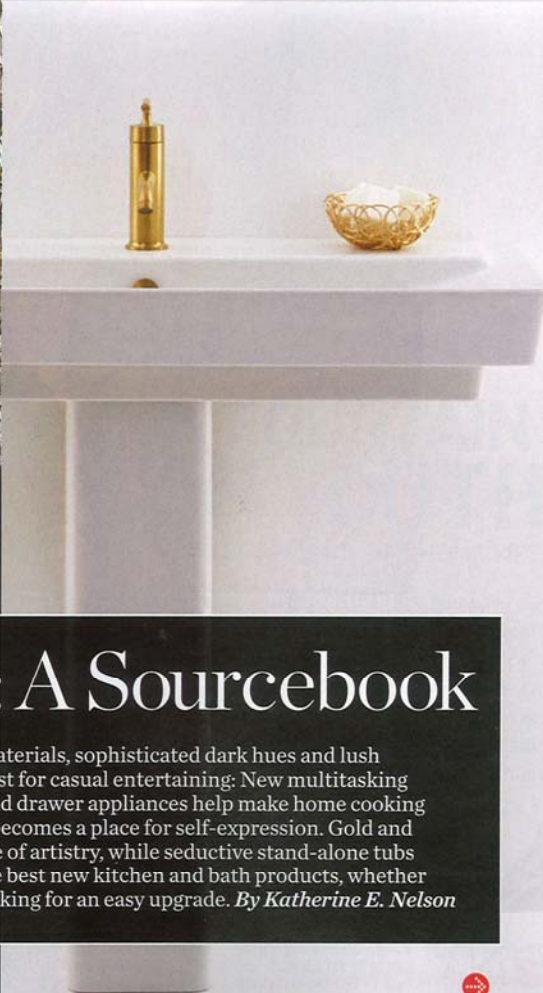
SMALL SPACE
Solutions

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Editors'
Choice



All that glitters (from left):
The twinkling glass prisms
of Elica's *Stor* exhaust fan/
light (\$3,750; Elica.com);
Réve, Kohler's vitreous-china
sink in Honed White, with
a *Purist* faucet in a brushed
Moderne Gold finish (sink
and pedestal, \$865; faucet,
\$480; Kohler.com).

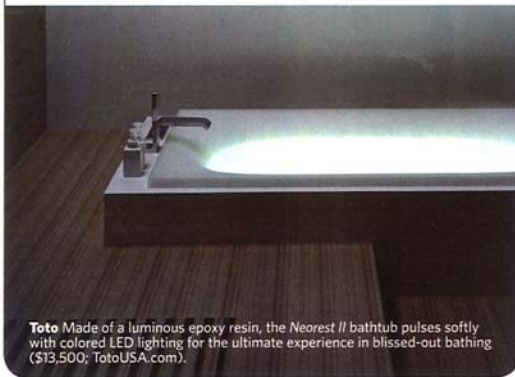


Kitchen+Bath: A Sourcebook

Kitchens and baths embrace glamour with rich materials, sophisticated dark hues and lush patterns. In the kitchen, speedy meal prep is a must for casual entertaining: New multitasking refrigeration, smart storage, versatile cooktops and drawer appliances help make home cooking seem effortless. The bath, now a spa-like retreat, becomes a place for self-expression. Gold and bronze finishes and sculptural fixtures offer a note of artistry, while seductive stand-alone tubs steal the show. On the following pages, we pick the best new kitchen and bath products, whether you're primed for all-over renovation or simply looking for an easy upgrade. *By Katherine E. Nelson*



Hot Tubs As bathrooms turn into spaces for living and relaxing, stand-alone tubs have become the focal point. These statement pieces come in a range of materials, from exotic marble to resplendent glass. Oversize and spacious, the vessels put less emphasis on high-tech jets and massage options and more on blissful soaking to bring calm to busy lives.



Toto Made of a luminous epoxy resin, the *Neorest II* bathtub pulses softly with colored LED lighting for the ultimate experience in blissed-out bathing (\$13,500; TotoUSA.com).

Green Team Green design continues to gain ground. For kitchens, sustainable bamboo is a top choice for cabinets and surfaces. And post-consumer, recycled materials score big in sleek countertops with improved strength. Also on offer, sustainably harvested woods and low-VOC finishes and adhesives. In bathrooms, low-flow faucets and toilets look to improve water savings.



Teragen Its bamboo countertops provide a bacteria-resistant, formaldehyde-free surface pre-treated with a food-safe mineral oil/beeswax finish (\$26 to \$32/sq. ft.; Teragen.com).



Moen *Enviro Eco-Performance Rainshower* saves water but doesn't compromise on luxury—the head expands to 100 nozzles for an all-out drench (brushed nickel, \$300; Moen.com).



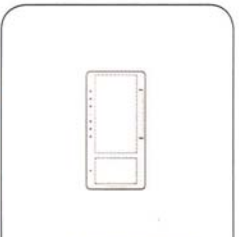
Novellini The stylish *Cristal* bathtub is good for the planet—it's made of recyclable aluminum, zero-impact-emissions glass and ABS plastic (78½" l x 30" w, \$14,200; Novellini.com).



Burgbad Made from mineral-cast and natural stone, the *Pil* bathing pool offers a unique rounded shape for dipping and soaking (79¼" l x 40½" w x 21½" d, \$12,125; Burgbad.com).



Tonusa *Elements*, a bamboo and aluminum kitchen by Fu Tung Cheng, has formaldehyde-free cabinets and FSC-certified bamboo veneer (about \$500 to \$800/sq. ft.; ChengDesign.com).



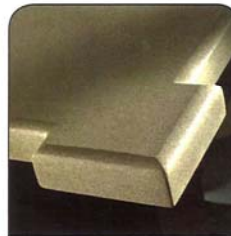
Lutron A leader in light control, its energy-saving *Maestro* dimmer with occupancy sensor detects fine motions and turns the lights off when the room is empty (\$55; Lutron.com).



Stone Forest Carved from a single block of Carrara marble, the *Rubix* bathtub is a stand-alone piece of art weighing 2,800 pounds (68" l x 40" w x 24" h, \$23,500; StoneForest.com).



Kaldewei Nearly 80 inches long and 40 inches wide, the *Bassino* steel enamel tub allows a bather to float freely and experience almost complete weightlessness (\$6,420; Kaldewei.com).



Cosentino The *Eco* countertop is made of 75 percent post-consumer, recycled raw material and is bonded with a corn-based resin (\$66 to \$118/sq. ft.; EcoByCosentino.com).



Atlantis Want a kitchen in your backyard? This company's new bamboo outdoor cabinets will help you rack up LEED points (from \$3,000; OutdoorKitchensByAtlantis.com). ☺

For more kitchen and bath products, go to methome.com/sourcebook