

# REMODELING Tips

WINTER 2006

Photo: Courtesy of Kohler Co. (www.KOHLER.com)



## Bathroom Trends

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## Metals of Honor

Metallic colors have surfaced this year as one of the most important current interior design trends. Rich, earthy metal tones have found their way into fabrics, paint, tile and accessories. Whether it is sheer fabrics with metallic threads woven into them or copper strips inset into wood floors, metal provides a depth, sheen and elegance to the décor.

As interest in warmer, darker cabinet tones is emerging, and the popularity of metallic tiles on kitchen walls and backsplashes continues to grow, manufacturers



Photo: Courtesy of Copperhead Sinks (www.copperheadsinks.com)

*This hammered copper "trough" sink works well in an island or bar setting.*

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**D&D SCARBOROUGH,**  
Have a Wonderful  
Holiday Season!



# Bathroom Trends

*An up-to-the-minute prescription for creating your own private five-star retreat*



## **Cabinets:**

- Clean, straight lines are the trend, with simple door shapes and elongated handles.
- The style recreates an elegant and inviting spa atmosphere.
- The furniture look is popular, with actual furniture pieces used as cabinets.
- Plenty of cabinet space is provided at eye level for storing toiletries.



*Water cascades from the integral faucets mounted in the dual mirrored wall cabinets, creating stunning images as it flows into the his-and-hers lavatories below. From the Purist Suite by Kohler.*



## **Countertops:**

- Granite, marble, quartz or solid surface predominate.
- Glass or concrete are stylish options.

## **Lavatories:**

- Freestanding console tables, pedestal sinks, basins in a decorative stand, or above-counter vessels are all the rage.
- Decorative sinks, such as iridescent glass or hammered copper, are capturing lots of attention.

## **Faucets and Hardware:**

- The trend is towards beautifully sculptured pieces with oil-rubbed bronze or antique nickel finishes.
- Modern Euro-style faucets in chrome complete the contemporary look.
- Technology offers faucets with hands-free sensors, or LED illumination.

## **Showers:**

- Big, two-person showers with multiple showerheads and sprays are very popular.
- Frameless glass shower doors are the norm.
- Open showers without walls, doors or threshold are also in vogue.
- Steam showers are a big item.

## **Bathhubs:**

- Whirlpool tubs will continue to be included when space allows.
- Soaking tubs are capturing a lot of attention.
- Thermo-massage airjet baths are popular because they can be used with sea salts, muds and essential oils.

## **Towel warmers:**

- There are wall-hung towel warmers and stand-up models. Warming drawers in the bathroom are used as towel warmers.

## **Lighting:**

- Color therapy lighting is popular in baths and showers, as well as the option of tanning lights in the shower.
- There is a real growth in decorative and task lighting in the bathroom. Decorative sconces mounted on the mirror, for example.
- Natural light is introduced everywhere possible through the addition of windows, skylights, or tubes.

## **Toilets:**

- Low-flush toilets are now high-performance.
- Separate bidets, or toilets that include an integral personal hygiene system, are getting more popular.

## **Floors:**

- Tile is standard, with tumbled stone as a high-end option.
- Wood floors, protected with a moisture-resistant finish, are an elegant alternative.

## **Audio-visual:**

- TV's are hidden behind walls of two-way glass,
- The TV can be built into a cabinet, and then with a push of a button raised for pleasant viewing.
- A decorative mirror becomes a TV when activated,

## **His and Hers in the Master Bathroom:**

- Dual sinks and grooming areas are important, with a completely separate space for dressing.
- Often master suites will have separate his and hers bathrooms.

# Home Office 101

*This home office is conveniently located in a recessed area off the hallway.*

Technology has revolutionized our lives in many ways and the needs of families are quickly changing. Home-based workstations are becoming one of the most requested remodeling jobs as today's technology allows many of us to work at home.

Wouldn't you enjoy commuting just down the hall? Whether you need a dedicated home office, more homework space in the kitchen, a hospital for treating the paper virus which breeds in our homes, or a corner of the family room for a computer, you need to consider carefully all the different aspects of the space you are creating.

One example of something easily overlooked is lighting. Natural light needs to be controlled, since glare on a computer screen can be a nuisance. Installing recessed lighting will evenly distribute light in the area.



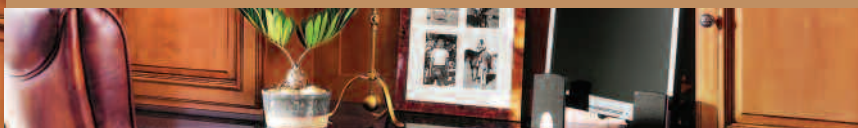
Photos: Courtesy of Timberlake Cabinet Company ([www.timberlake.com](http://www.timberlake.com))

How many workstations will your office include? On the technical side, make sure you include multiple outlets for all the office equipment. If you don't plan on using a wireless network, you will also need special network wiring for linking computers and printers together.

Do you want to use a favorite antique desk? With careful planning furniture pieces can be integrated with new custom cabinetry for a personal look that, at the same time, provides plenty of storage for reference materials.

Office space can be carved out of most rooms in the house, even a hallway or under the stairs, and your life can be made easier and more organized.

*The office has a club-feel enhanced by the use of moldings and glazed maple hardwoods.*



Metals of Honor

Seasonal Greetings

Bathroom Trends

Home Office 101



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## Metals of Honor

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have begun to provide appliance and fixture finishes that complete the look. At the 2006 Kitchen and Bath Industry Show (KBIS), new metallic finishes generated a lot of excitement. Now there are appealing choices for homeowners, beyond the standard stainless steel.

Oiled bronze and copper exude a warmth and geniality that is suited to any interior, but particularly enhances the softer appearance of traditional design. The golden undertones of these finishes coordinate well with current popular colors for paint and accessories—such as apricot, green, tan and aubergine. For Country French or Tuscan décor, the more rustic or antique appearance of these new finishes helps bring together all the elements of the style.

*This stainless steel undercounter refrigerated cabinet is shown here in Amethyst, a subtle violet hue, which is accented by stainless steel controller and handles.*



Photo: Courtesy of Perlick  
(www.bringperlickhome.com)



*This suite of appliances features an oiled bronze finish with stainless steel handles and hardware, lending versatility.*

Photo: Courtesy of Jenn-Air (www.jennair.com)

There's no doubt that stainless steel appliances as well as chrome fixtures still reign supreme in the American kitchen—their look is clean, classy, and lends an air of professional expertise. Stainless steel will most likely continue to be the best selling finish for ranges and refrigerators for some time to come. However, for the homeowner who likes to express his or her individuality, the new metallic finishes offer a way to break out of the mold. It's nice to know there are some stylish options out there.

*The Amberst single-control kitchen faucet is shown here in the new Tuscan Bronze finish.*



Photo: Courtesy of Price Pfister  
(www.pricepfister.com)