# KITCHEN APPLIANCES

The kitchen is the heart of the home and outdated appliances and fixtures can really date it quickly. Before you buy new appliances decide if you're making upgrades for you and your family, or are you thinking of selling your house? What are the latest trends...and are they for you?

## Appliances

For appliances, **stainless steel** continues to lead from the professional world into private homes. First seen in chef-style ranges, it has become the top choice for other appliances. Dishwashers, refrigerators, cooktops, hoods, ovens and microwave ovens are shown with stainless steel fronts.

**Refrigerators** are becoming more upscale with European brand influences. If not stainless steel, refrigerators, as well as other kitchen helpers (warming drawers, ice makers) may have finishes that match the cabinetry.

**Ovens** are faster and more efficient than ever. Cooktops with hanging hoods are now separate from the oven in the latest kitchen makeovers. Microwave ovens are used for defrosting or quick heating, rather than for cooking full meals.

## Fixtures

**Faucets and fixtures** follow in the commercial stainless steel look. For both **sinks** and **faucets,** stainless steel is a top choice to blend with the appliances. Double sinks remain popular with **single lever faucets** with a pullout sprayer that's practical and easy care.

## key trends

- Stainless steel appliances and fixtures
- Fashionable, functional cabinetry
- Kitchens as family hubs and entertaining centers

## Return on Investment

**On a major kitchen remodel you can expect a return on investment of about 80%. Talk with me for realistic expectations based on your neighborhood.**

## Cabinets

**Kitchen cabinetry** is a large component in kitchen redesign. The style, wood and finish color should enhance the room, and contribute to highly functional storage areas. Aim for clean light finishes with sleek fixtures to complement your new kitchen. A kitchen contractor can show you the many options for kitchen cabinetry, and provide professional design and construction help.

Choose a color palette for floors, countertops and walls that makes your new kitchen warm and inviting—and reflects your unique sense of style.

## Tip

Ask about new products developed just for cleaning stainless steel kitchen appliances to keep your appliances sparkling.

## Information Line

For more about it, visit:

**www.appliancist.com**
Latest in kitchen appliances

**www.kitchenremodelideas.com**
Guide to kitchen design and remodeling

**http://homeappliances.wordpress.com**
All about home appliances

**I hope you enjoyed this edition of *Home & Garden Trends.***

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