

# kitchen & bath DESIGN NEWS<sup>®</sup>

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## 2016 DIRECTORY OF SURFACING MATERIALS

Technology  
In the Bath

Kitchen Sink  
& Faucet Trends



The **Stone Forest** Copper Farmhouse Sink has a stainless steel interior. The fully double-walled construction allows for a foam-filled interior, reducing reverberation and enabling under-mount, flush-mount, partially elevated or above-counter installation. One side of the sink is hammered and the other has a smooth front apron for a choice of display options.  
CIRCLE NO. 172 ON PRODUCT CARD



For indoor or outdoor use, The **Galley Workstation** comes in six standard sizes, single- and double-bowl, or custom size. The Workstation's Culinary Kit in Graphite Wood Composite, Gray or White High-Density Resin, or Natural Bamboo, includes one or more of the following: Cutting Board, Colander and Lidded Bowl with custom platform, a Drain Rack and an Ideal Flow Drain Cover.  
CIRCLE NO. 173 ON PRODUCT CARD



The Fast-In Quick Install System on **FrankieUSA's** new sink line offers a no-tools-required, top-mount installation and a double-bowl design. Entering through the counter-surface opening, the sink is pressed down until the built-in Fast-In clips click into place. The 18-gauge stainless steel sink has sound-dampening pads, a narrow center divider, slim-rim design and extra-deep ledges.  
CIRCLE NO. 174 ON PRODUCT CARD



The Vienne 30" farmhouse apron sink from **Herbeau Creations of America** is fashioned from copper that is pre-weathered through a special process that ensures a deep patina, notes the company. The weathered copper surface is naturally anti-microbial, the firm adds.  
CIRCLE NO. 175 ON PRODUCT CARD



Created in collaboration with designer Matthew Quinn, the Social-Corner sink from **Julien** is designed for installation on the right or left corner of a kitchen island, freeing up counterspace and providing access from different work areas. The contemporary sink has two aprons and is handcrafted from 16-gauge commercial quality stainless steel.  
CIRCLE NO. 176 ON PRODUCT CARD



**HOUZER's** Porcela series features porcelain enamel steel sinks for undermount applications. Providing the look of cast iron, the sinks are 65 percent lighter – a twist on traditional style. Double baked at 1500° F, porcelain surfaces are non-chipping and resist scratches or stains, notes the company. Sinks are available in: White, Biscuit, Lemon, Mint, Slate, Espresso, Navy Blue and Black.  
CIRCLE NO. 177 ON PRODUCT CARD



**GROHE** has launched a dual-spray pull-down kitchen faucet within its Parkfield collection. Drawing design inspiration from nature, the lever of the faucet has a fluid form that is reminiscent of the shape and curves of a leaf, while the bottom of the faucet resembles the shape of a water droplet, according to the company. The collection is offered in chrome and stainless steel finishes.  
CIRCLE NO. 178 ON PRODUCT CARD



**Premier Copper Products** has introduced the handcrafted Rectangle Skirted Vessel Hammered Copper Sink. The sink gets its finish using an innovative nickel-plating process, which produces a sink that is both durable and beautiful, notes the company.  
CIRCLE NO. 179 ON PRODUCT CARD

## SMOOTH OPERATION

A number of current technologies designed to make faucet use effortless are becoming more standard in kitchen faucets. Touch technology, hands-free operation and pull-down/pull-out faucets all contribute to an easy-to-use, practical and efficient faucet.

The last two years have been all about the pull-down kitchen faucet, a trend he doesn't see letting up any time soon, says Rohl. "The majority of these faucets have definitely had a more contemporary/industrial feel to them, mimicking what we see in commercial kitchens. While there is still that desire to create the 'chef's kitchen' at home, I do see people looking for a pull-down kitchen faucet that has a more transitional/traditional design style," he says. There is a gap in the market, he adds, which is why ROHL will introduce a new traditional pull-down kitchen faucet as part of its Perrin & Rowe Collection later this year.

Taft agrees that the pull-down design is in high demand. "In the kitchen faucet world, pull-down sprays dominate due to their ease of use and ergonomic styling," says Taft.

Lord adds, "In the kitchen, faucets almost need to have the functionality of a pull-out or pull-down as a point of entry into the mid- to higher-end spaces. These models typically provide the ability to deliver

multiple spray functions in a very flexible manner in and around the entire sink area." In 2015, Brizo launched an articulating faucet in both the Solna and Artesso collections, and in 2016, the designs will also feature SmartTouch Technology, allowing for hands-free operation. "The beauty of an articulating faucet is that it provides a strong architectural statement and can direct water from various heights and angles. This architecture, coupled with the ability to control the water flow with a simple tap anywhere on the faucet body, handle or articulating arm, promotes efficiency of motion and improves flexibility and operation in frequent kitchen tasks," says Lord.

Hands-free and touch technologies simplify faucet use, and are of great interest to designers and homeowners. "As consumers continue to have positive experiences with touch and hands-free technologies, we anticipate this trend will continue to grow," says Lord.

Taylor adds, "Faucet designs are increasingly being influenced by technology and the technological features are becoming part of the overall design. For our new kitchen lines, our research has gone beyond taking into account general ergonomics and how users operate the faucet. We are zeroing in on how users move around the kitchen and sink area as a whole as this dictates their interaction with the faucet," he adds.