

# Simply SLEEK

Hasmita Amtha shares how you can achieve a minimalist contemporary kitchen design



Dive Cucina Johannesburg

There's something striking about a contemporary kitchen with a minimalist aesthetic – think sleek sophisticated style that's uncluttered and paired with functional design. Overcoming the misconception that contemporary implies a stark, sterile and clinical design, this style is anything but. Instead it's about the celebration of different materials, textures, colour palettes and features. >



Linear Concepts



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### KITCHEN TRENDS

Beauty and ergonomics are the watchwords for modern kitchens. The trend is to create a kitchen that satisfies the eye and beyond, practical spaces to move around in, large surfaces to cook easily but also solutions that adapt to size. Above all, beautiful stones combined with strong and warm colours are recommended combinations.

– Melanie Stein, Eurocasa



FABRI South Africa

**“The appearance should be clean but filled with luxe stone, sleek appliances and gorgeous finishes. A gravity-defying island always feels clean, modern and minimalistic.” – Selma Zaifoglu**

#### CONTEMPORARY COOL

Defining the contemporary look, Selma Zaifoglu of Linear Concepts says: “Contemporary kitchens are the epitome of sophisticated, minimalist layouts. They’re characterised by wooden elements and fresh countertops together with modern glass display focal points, and integrated appliances with a seamless design. This style is functional yet artistic in nature.”

Elaborating on the ideal minimalist contemporary kitchen, Zaifoglu says: “The appearance should be clean but filled with luxe stone, sleek appliances and gorgeous finishes. A gravity-defying island always feels clean, modern and minimalistic. Using invisible hardware creates a streamlined look. Exposed hardware can be distracting or overwhelming.”

#### DESIGN DETAILS

A true minimalist kitchen has a timeless feel, as it’s not defined by trends but rather design elements and materials that have a long-term appeal, says the nuuma design team.

“We focus on timeless design, and use materials ranging from matt or gloss finishes to natural stone and concrete, which are part of our sleek look, as well as introducing accent elements of bronze or smoked mirror or glass. Timber is also an important part of our palette – it offers character to the overall space.”

On design, they say the less-is-more approach is key. “It’s not so much about adding more but rather considering what can be taken away. >



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## CABINETS AND COUNTERTOPS

When it comes to cabinetry, sleek and simple designs are what make minimalist contemporary kitchens stand out.

On achieving this, Katlego Mabusela of FABRI South Africa says, "By applying a clever use of symmetry in the kitchen with horizontal and vertical lines, a sleek aesthetic can be realised."

Smooth and soft touches for cabinetry doors, and thin stone countertops of 12mm – 20mm thickness, complement the aesthetic well."

On colour, which is one of the most defining elements, Melanie Stein of Eurocasa says light-coloured kitchens in white and greys are currently the most popular shades, with wooden elements.

"However, having said that, we design some phenomenal dark kitchens. Depending on the personality of the client, we may use something bold to add a distinct accent. Of course, our offering consists of many different colours – we have many different cabinetry offerings of various shapes and colours.

"Even if light colours are the most used, for rich solutions we also offer many dark colours and warm materials that recall precious metals, adding elegance and a modernity that's timeless." 🏡

*With thanks to Diva Cucine Johannesburg, Eurocasa, FABRI South Africa, Linear Concepts and nuuma*



Eurocasa

## 2021 COLOUR TRENDS

For those seeking a bold aesthetic, the use of blues, greens and coral are being considered too.

– Anthea Adam, Diva Cucine Johannesburg

"That said, the décor elements within the kitchen space should also to be carefully considered, like nook seating, lighting and décor items on counters. Every detail and finish must be thoroughly

thought through in order to achieve a sleek minimalist contemporary kitchen that still offers the desired sense of character and interest."

A minimalist contemporary kitchen must respect aesthetics and functionality, says Anthea Adam of Diva Cucine Johannesburg. "One needs to draw on a collection rich in customising elements, which can allow designers to create a unique composition.

"Colours and materials are important, but above all modularity, appliances and accessories can enrich the offer. For these reasons minimalist contemporary kitchens must correspond to those who use it, where the different areas related to preparation, washing, storage and meals are extremely important."

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