



# Countertops: THE HEART OF YOUR KITCHEN

Walk into a kitchen, and what is your eye drawn to? The countertops! Cabinets are the backdrop, lighting lends ambiance, flooring is the base...but it is the countertops that speak to who lives and works in that kitchen. Whether you're contemplating a kitchen refresh or taking on a major renovation, consider choosing the countertops first. They are the heart of the project.

Believe it or not, your countertop is actually a reflection of who you are - your style, your taste, your unique vibe. A dramatic dark surface with bold veining might appeal to someone who exudes self-confidence and is fashion forward, while someone who is more traditional and classic might be drawn to a calming neutral white. A professional interior designer will see what you don't see and guide you to the option or options that suits you best. (Yes, you can have more than one type in your space, but here again you should rely on professional guidance to avoid a hot mess!)

Quartz is the most popular man-made engineered stone used for countertops today, while granite and marble are the two preferred types of natural materials. Other options include glass, concrete, even tile and wood. Each has pros and cons. Color and texture are what you see while features like durability, maintenance and price are what you don't see. Do your homework and rely on the expertise and recommendation of your designer who will call in a reliable, experienced fabricator to ensure you are happy with your selection. Chosen wisely, countertops last a lifetime - you want to make sure you love them!

We all know refreshing or renovating your kitchen is a serious monetary commitment. This is not the place to skimp on the advice of experts. And it can all begin with the right countertop.



*Joanne Turner & Marty McDewitt*

