

# Top 10

By Bella Babot

## Home & Design Trends for 2013



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**While every homeowner has specific ideas on style, the overall trend is toward simpler living and low-maintenance design but with accent marks of color and splash that don't overpower.**

This esthetic extends from clean and simple kitchen cabinetry to "bulletproof" countertops, pre-finished wood flooring and solid "pops" of glass, color and sparkling textures. The trend toward simplicity is also manifested in a growing demand for safer, healthier and more sustainable homes.

### 10. Kitchen Cabinets

A clean, simple, contemporary look will be popular with homeowners looking to economize and eliminate unnecessary clutter and fussy details that equate to high maintenance and complicated living. For those who don't want to spring for new cabinetry, re-facing or refinishing cabinets offers more bang for the buck.

### 9. Countertops

Granite has been dethroned. While granite isn't going away and still has many die-hard fans, the new king of countertops will be quartz composite – the closest thing to no maintenance.

### 8. Hardwood Floors

Pre-finished and engineered wood flooring will become more popular than the once gold standard of site-finished flooring. Pre-finished woods provide a hard, durable finish, are an installation time saver and eliminate the sanding dust dilemma. Engineered wood floors are also compatible with under-floor heating systems, a big plus in cold climates.

### 7. Glass Backsplashes

Glass mosaic tile is on the way out. Taking its place are glass/stone/tile mosaic composites that can add more texture and visual interest and that tie in more readily with stone or quartz countertops. Be on the lookout for back-painted, solid glass panel backsplashes in contemporary settings which provides an ultra-clean, almost ethereal look to a kitchen setting.

### 6. Stylishly Simple Sinks

Goodbye double-sinks, hello deep single-bowl sinks. With accessories such as fitted colanders and dish drains, deep single-bowl sinks have all the benefits of a divided sink plus the large size to actually fit that roasting pan or those baking sheets into the sink all at once. Stainless is still popular but the quartz composites are a great value and durable option.

### 5. Color Palette

Charcoal is the new black. 2013 will find this silky color everywhere as it blends the right amount of chocolate, grey and a touch of green. Pantone has named Emerald Green as the "it color" while Benjamin Moore has decided that Lemon Sorbet adds a hint of pastel sweetness to any room.

### 4. Bathroom Countertops

Synonymous with luxury, slab glass is making a cool comeback

with innovative colors, up lighting and creative designs for a contemporary clean look that is also low maintenance.

### 3. Texture and Sparkle

Bedazzled may find its way into home décor and design as homeowners seek a blend of classic textures and colors with pops of bold color and elements of sparkle. Pewter and metal combined with glossy glass tile backsplashes add sparkle against polished nickel fixtures that are trending in 2013.

### 2. A Forever Home/ Multi-Generational Living

With many certified aging-in-place specialists (CAPS), Harrell Remodeling's designers predict a growing trend to help aging baby boomers safely "grow old" in their homes for as long as possible. Look for easy kitchen and bath upgrades to enhance functionality, comfort and safety.

### 1. Healthy Home, Healthy Living

Green and sustainable design is here to stay. The number one trend for 2013 will be to create a healthy living environment, free of toxins and harsh chemicals. More and more homeowners are taking advantage of federal and state incentives to evaluate their home's energy efficiency and overall performance.

*Harrell Remodeling is a full-service design + build residential remodeling company based in Mountain View, California. For more information, call 650.230.2900. [Harrell-remodeling.com](http://Harrell-remodeling.com).*