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The 2012 NKBA Design Competition Winners

PLUS: FEAR & LOATHING IN BRAND WORLD | VIRTUAL MEETINGS | K&B HALL OF FAME | DESIGN TRENDS



Best Kitchen

[Check out the Best Bath](#) ▶▶

and concentration. Symmetry as a design trend appears poised to remain, simply translated into contemporary applications and with current styling impacting change.

▶▶ Tile in Totality

Tile is making its presence known in contemporary bathrooms, occupying more and more wall, floor and backsplash space. And with so many choices in tile, the options are almost limitless as to how a designer might incorporate tile as a primary component. At the center of this master bathroom is a Japanese soaking tub, which contains no faucet as water is filled from the tub over low Japanese ceiling involves a time of contemplation and reflection in a tub that is much longer than a traditional American version. Since the tub and ceiling experience represented such a significant part of the client's requests, it warranted extra care in how it would be accented. The radiant crystal glass tile muller and green marble on the upper and lower tub deck were paired with small mosaic tiles in colors meant to evoke a tranquil sunset. Light textured sand colored porcelain tile flooring presents the foundation for a restful space wrapped in glass tile.

▶▶ Glossy Finishes & Fixtures

Shimmering surfaces, shining fixtures, high-gloss finishes and perfectly placed lighting accents are a prominent secondary trait of current kitchens. This kitchen is the composition of stainless steel, walnut wood veneer and light reflecting glass. Onyx is gold marble is on top. Lights along the floor on the base of the island create a soft glow along the recessed toe-kick. Wood floors appear to glow with the shine of fine warm oak and polishing. Four exhaust hoods, concrete countertops (seating for seven to accommodate entertaining), a pass through to the outdoor grill, breezeway, indoor and outdoor living space, matched horizontal grain walnut wood veneer; graphic anodized aluminum, translucent glass and several work triangles for maximum efficiency in a multiple cook kitchen are some of the outstanding features in this family kitchen. The view canalized on by walls of windows and glass doors is the artwork of the space, making adornment for the walls unnecessary. However, it's the sheen and shimmer against creamy walls and warm wood that breathes life into the interior space.

▶▶ Repeating & Complementing Shapes

Starting with a particular shape and repeating it in various sizes, colors and textures adds a new dimension that is soothing, easy to accept

