

# Decorating Trends

## Give Your Kitchen Convenient Country Charm

(NAPSA)—Kitchens are no longer a back room; these days, they're a major living space, and designers and consumers are looking for elements of warmth and comfort to tie a kitchen into the rest of the home. As a result, the latest look for kitchens is old-fashioned comfort and convenience—but with a material difference.

That's because you can now install a sink that looks like it came from a decades-old farmhouse but is made of the most modern materials so it will look good and work well for decades to come. The apron front design dates back to a time when water had to be hauled in for cleaning and cooking and the sink needed to hold large amounts. There were no counters or cabinets between the homeowner and the sink—which made for better ergonomics, though no one called it that at the time.

Originally, such sinks were made of soapstone, which needs frequent care such as oiling, and fireclay, which often only comes in white. Now you can get an innovative IKON sink from BLANCO, which is the first composite granite, apron front sink made from a patented material called SILGRANIT.

The sophisticated apron front design is not only durable, it works with both contemporary and rustic interiors—from farm to city. It comes in three neutral shades: Anthracite, White and Café Brown. SILGRANIT sinks are beautifully designed and scientifically proven to be scratch, stain and heat resistant so they look good for years of use. The smooth



**From farm to city: The rural and rustic—farmhouse tables, reclaimed wood, wide plank floors and apron front sinks—are particularly popular in kitchens today.**

surface is easy to clean and there's a limited lifetime warranty.

To make the sink even easier to use, you can also get a custom-fit floating grid accessory, which rests along the walls of the sink and can be used as an additional workstation for prepping and cleaning or as a trivet on the countertop. Since the grid doesn't have to protect the sink surface, it floats gently above the sink bottom (and above any debris and water) and can easily handle the weight of most pots and pans.

This sink can do more than enhance the look of your kitchen. BLANCO has a long tradition of environmental stewardship and production facilities that operate to strict environmental performance standards. In addition, it's a member of the Caux Round Table, an international network of companies working to promote moral capitalism.

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