

# Decorator's Notebook

## Let The Wallcovering Do The Decorating

(NAPSA)—Ever notice that a party always seems to find its way into the kitchen? There is something about this one room—maybe the food, maybe the familiar welcome feel—that always makes it the focal point of a home.

Kitchens have come a long way from the early days of being cold, isolated, and used only by servants. Now, the kitchen is a common ground for families not only to dine, but also to entertain or simply gather.

As the highest traffic area in the home, the kitchen tops the list of most homeowners when it comes to remodeling and decorating priorities. Yet for many, the reality of a tight budget puts a damper on the dream of owning the ultimate kitchen.

“Not all homeowners have the budget to do a complete remodel,” said Suzanne Ashley, Director of Product Development for Seabrook Wallcoverings. “But the truth is, you don’t have to go to a lot of expense to update your kitchen. Wallcoverings allow you to create a whole new look, at minimal cost.”

According to Ashley, wallcoverings can actually do the decorating for you. “Today’s designs offer more color, texture and visual interest than in years past,” said Ashley. “In fact, many wallcovering designs are now being developed to accentuate other home accessory items already on the market, making it easier than ever to create a pulled-together look.”

For example, Seabrook’s “Estate of Mind” wallcovering collection was designed to coordinate with artist Michal Sparks’ popular dinnerware line under the same name. The collection features patterns that coordinate perfectly



with Sparks’ dishes, in addition to designs the artist painted exclusively for the wallcovering collection. Such pre-coordinated elements can ease the fear of making a decorating mistake, in addition to providing the tools needed to create a designer look.

Wallpaper is perhaps the most effective way to give your kitchen’s appearance a complete overhaul, due to the wide range of coordinating patterns on the market and its flexibility in terms of creative placement. Some of today’s most popular uses include placing one border near the ceiling and a second coordinating border at chair-rail level, papering the ceiling with a simple coordinate, or designing a one-of-a-kind backsplash by using coordinating wallpaper behind the stove.

Even if you can’t afford to knock out any walls or add luxury appliances, you can still create a fresh new look for the kitchen. By mixing and matching wallcoverings and then sprinkling in a few pre-coordinated accessories, you can make the focal point in your home even more inviting.