

# Kitchen Trends



“Our most used appliances  
are now making a big splash”



# Now in FOCUS...

The kitchen sink and tap have been the most used appliances in the kitchen for decades and they're now getting the focus they've long deserved and are being recognised and prioritised accordingly.

The choice of materials, styles and finishes have grown enormously over the years, created to complement the latest interior trends. The functionality of these appliances has grown too, with taps that now deliver steaming hot water as well a filtered cold water.

We wanted to create this new trends book to demonstrate all that's new in the world of kitchen sinks and taps, to show you what works best together, why the functionality matters and how all this

is aligned to the latest lifestyle trends right now. We look at convenience and sustainability too!

Abode is a Yorkshire based business and the team has been designing taps and sinks for the UK kitchen market since 2002. We sell our products through specialist kitchen showrooms throughout the UK. Here we share the latest design trends, share some of our customers real kitchen ideas, give tips on the best pairing of taps and sinks and what functionality works in today's kitchen.

We are giving our sinks and taps the recognition they deserve in taking pride of place in any kitchen...



Leanne Adamson  
Marketing Manager  
Abode

# What's in...



8



12



14



22



**Page 5-7** Team green with metallics.

**Page 8-9** Sustainable Kitchens.

**Page 10-11** Black is the new grey.

**Page 12-13** Growing colour craze.

**Page 14-15** Why this latest trend in steaming hot water taps.

**Page 16-17** Space saving ideas for a compact kitchen.

**Page 18-19** Industrial styling continues.

**Page 20-21** Four generational (4G) living.

**Page 22-23** Traditional is being modernised.

## Green with Envy

"Pair dark green cabinets with brass handles and a light bright worktop and it works in even the smallest of kitchens."

Displayed here by Meadow Kitchens, Cornwall.

## Team Racing Green with Metallics

Green may have been the new colour quoted by colour experts for kitchens in 2019, but it's only just filtering through to volume produced kitchens. It still feels so fresh, like bringing the outside in and is available in lots of shades. Dark green is a real heritage colour, great for classic designs and brilliant paired with metallic coloured taps. It creates a dark hue that is so impactful and is often complemented with stark white worktops and kitchen sinks to stunning effect.

But it's not just dark green that's growing in popularity, so are the lighter shades and there's plenty to choose from.

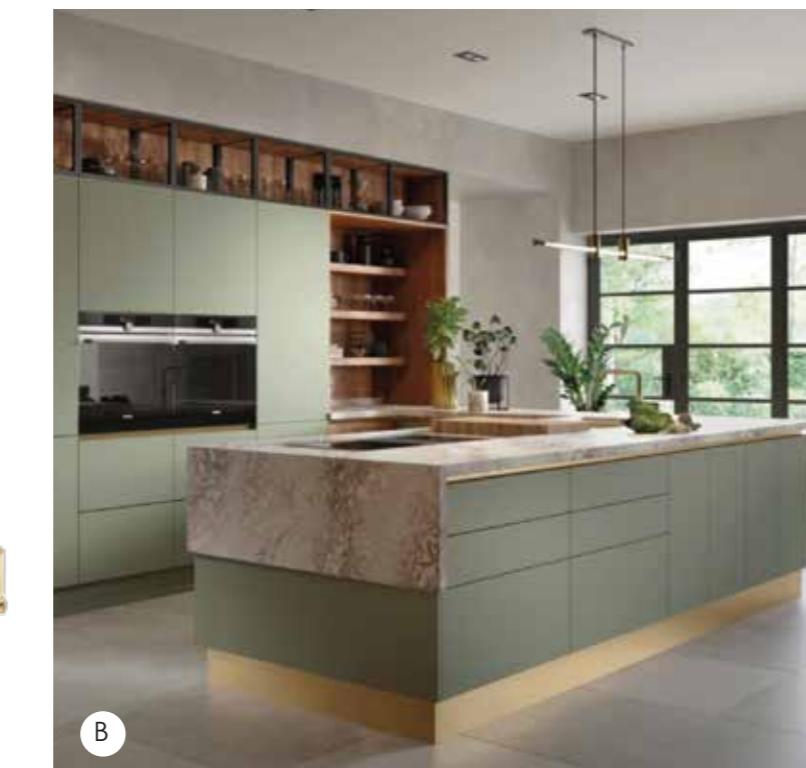
A: This Gosford monobloc tap in antique brass perfectly complements this sage green country kitchen with matching brass handles. The ceramic Belfast style sink offers a roomy practical solution.

Photograph: Janus Interiors in Bingley, West Yorks.



B: Perched at the far end of the large island unit in this almost Scandi styled kitchen is the Atlas Quad monobloc tap in brushed brass.

Photograph: Life Kitchens, London.



This matt black Pronteau tap offers near boiling hot water functionality and is chosen to match the metal cupboard handles.  
Photograph: Leicht Kitchens, London.

## House Plants are back...

Some believe that the surge in house plant sales, which were very popular in the 1980's, has grown over the past year largely due to Covid restrictions, working from home and a resulting overall higher appreciation of nature...



House plants certainly add calm to a kitchen space and the window sill is the obvious place. Great for kitchen herb plants too. Pictured: Stag Kitchens, Lymm, Cheshire.

This Atlas tap in a Brushed Brass finish paired with a pure white undermounted natural ceramic Belfast Sink, rightfully takes centre stage in this understated kitchen.



Add a plant themed blind like this Orla Kiely fabric roller blind. Pictured: Spruce Interiors, Nottingham.

The Hex monobloc tap, with industrial styling, is shown here in Antique Brass. Paired with the ultimately practical undermounted Matrix SQ GR15 1.5 bowl sink in Grey Metallic Granite.



If you're nervous about keeping house plants alive, cheat with a floral wallpaper. Pictured: Janus Interiors, Bingley, Yorkshire.

Centre stage is the Globe Quad Monobloc tap in Brushed Nickel paired with the new Studio compact bowl in stainless steel that comes complete with strainer, colander and mini bowl.



## Top kitchen plants tips...

We asked hortology.co.uk what top 3 kitchen plants they'd recommend.

Considered by houseplants as one of the more desirable locations in the home, the kitchen is sought after for its bright light, warm temperature and humid environment. Besides the obvious choices of culinary herbs, there are many houseplants that would give their best stem to get in here, and gloat in the presence of the must have mod cons and accessories. Our houseplant heroes however are the easy care, look good with little effort type that allow you to focus on the food, friends and family that you are busy entertaining.

### Hortology's Kitchen Heroes:



**Spider plants**  
These easy-care plants are popular for their green leaves with creamy white margins. This attractive, cascading plant, with small white flowers is non-toxic and will tolerate most light conditions.



**Snake plants**  
These stylish plants are recognisable by their striped, ornate arrangement. Compact, slow growing and drought tolerant, they don't mind the occasional neglect.



**Pothos**  
Tolerant of low light and normal humidity levels, these easy-care trailing plants are a nice option for high cupboards and shelves. Pothos are also valued for their air-purifying qualities.

## Sustainable Kitchen Products

Talking about green, we asked Dan Biddle, Product manager for Abode about the green credentials in kitchen sinks and taps today....

There's been some great work carried out by manufacturers in the kitchen market, implementing initiatives to both improve their carbon footprint and create products that are either made from more environmentally friendly materials or that help us to practice a greener lifestyle. To give you the inside track here are my 4 top tips to help you do your bit in the kitchen:

### Stainless Steel – 100% Recyclable

A lot of products in the kitchen are made from this material including kitchen sink, taps, worktop splashbacks, appliances and worktops. Aside from its robust and easy cleaning properties, it is 100% recyclable. It's great to know that at the end of its life, which can be after many decades of use, it will continue being recreated into another steel product. So consider the use of stainless steel in your next kitchen project.



### Reduce all things Plastic

Especially single-use plastic like water bottles that we throw away in abundance. Consider a water filter kitchen tap so that you can drink filtered water from home. And if you don't want to change your current tap, you can buy a product like SWICH and change your current tap into one that delivers filtered water.

Abode also offer a recycle scheme for the high resin filters used with these taps.



### Ditch the Kettle

Steaming hot water taps are without doubt the latest 'must have' kitchen appliance, now fitted in over 40% of new kitchens. These taps are run from a boiler, usually located under the sink, that maintains a constant temperature, therefore using much less energy than a frequently boiled kettle. Check out more benefits of a steaming hot water tap on page 14.



### Use Less Water

It's only once the tap is installed that its performance be assessed. We've all experienced a tap splashing water out of a glass you're trying to fill or worse still splashing your clothes. So, if this

happens, we'd suggest you reduce the water flow with a pressure compensating aerator (PCA). You don't have to reduce it to the extent where it takes too long to fill the kitchen sink, but if you largely use your sink for rinsing dishes before they go into the dishwasher, it's an area that



## Moody Hues

Dark blue, dark grey, even black kitchen cabinets are currently right on trend and many examples are dispelling the myth that they shouldn't be fitted in smaller kitchens. Be bold with your designs and have confidence in your conviction. Here are some great examples of dark cabinet colourways which look great with timber, dark laminate or heavily veined marble worktops. Some are handleless and others with metallic handles that perfectly complement the latest coloured tap finishes.



Tubist single lever pull out tap in polished copper.



Pico quad monobloc in matt black.



▲ Bold strong graphite cabinets and worktops paired perfectly with dark walnut. A Matt Black or Stainless Steel tap completes the look.  
Pictured: Life Kitchens, London.

► There's something strikingly heritage about this dark blue and copper kitchen, all that's missing is a copper tap.  
Pictured: Summerbridge Kitchens, Hull.

◀ This mid grey handleless tall housing features a copper inlay which perfectly suits a matching copper tap.  
Pictured: Desirable Interiors, Cleethorpes, Lincolnshire.

▼ This Pronteau steaming hot water tap and undermounted stainless steel Matrix sink are perfect with this striking, heavily veined, marble work top and splash back.  
Pictured: Meliora Kitchens, Bedrooms & Bathrooms, Doncaster.



Bayenne single lever traditional tap in Century Copper.

# Continuing Colour Craze...

10 years ago the majority of kitchen taps sold had a chrome finish. Today retailers, specialising at the top end of the market, advise us that only a small number are now chrome and the vast majority of refurbished kitchens proudly display a tap with a special finish. Brushed nickel is now the most popular with black, copper and brass increasingly chosen. Taps now tend to beautifully coordinate with the finishes on the cupboard handles, light switches, plug sockets and even with the bold metallic veins that run through the latest solid surface worktops. And each year seems to bring with it a new finish....



## Two tone Kitchens

Many kitchens today display two different cabinet colours, it's another way to personalise the space and make bold choices. It's particularly effective in smaller rooms where bold dark on trend cabinets can be used in areas complemented by opposing bright light cabinets to lift the space.

Althia tap in brushed brass with white granite undermount sink.  
Photograph: Stag Kitchens of Lymm, Cheshire.



Fluid monobloc tap in chrome with ceramic Belfast sink.  
Photograph: Janus Interiors in Bingley, West Yorks.



Pico tap in chrome with stainless steel undermount sink.  
Photograph: Home Design HQ in Sheffield.



Hex single lever tap in matt black on an Xcite 1.5 bowl sink in grey metallic granite  
Photograph: Janus Interiors in Bingley, West Yorks.

# Steaming Ahead...

Emma Birkenshaw, from the Abode marketing team, talks us through the buoyant market of Steaming Hot Water Taps and what benefits they bring to your kitchen.....



The near boiling hot water tap is currently the fastest growing kitchen appliance. Our retailer customers tell us that they plan one into the majority of kitchens they design and the take up from customers is very high indeed. Initially considered as the ultimate in luxury, today they are mainstream as people recognise the convenience, ease of use, space saving and safety benefits they bring.

When wrapped up in the cost of a new kitchen, they also become ultimately affordable. We've seen the market grow enormously since we first launched our Pronteau collection over five years ago, the functionality and performance has improved with advances in technology and prices have reduced as volumes have grown. Early taps were big and bulky, today they are subtle and slimline, like any well designed kitchen tap.

That's certainly how we design them, take our Pronteau collection of 3 IN 1 taps, that's a tap that delivers regular hot and cold and steaming hot water at 98°, they start at £599 look great and now come in a selection of on trend finishes.

Our 4 IN 1 Pronteau taps offer all the functionality of our 3 IN 1 models with addition of cold filtered water too. They are ideal for life on the go, so you can grab a coffee or fill a re-usable bottle with fresh filtered water before shooting out of the door.



▲ Pronteau Prothia 3 IN 1 with Quad spout in Brushed Brass £699

► Pronteau Propure 4 IN 1 with Swan spout in Brushed Nickel £899



## The Kettle Killer

### It's Convenient

Each home boils a kettle on average 4 times a day for hot drinks and another 3 times a day for other uses. That's over 2500 kettle boils each year equating to lots of energy used, lots of water reboiled or thrown away and many hours waiting for it to boil.

### It's Safe

The NHS treats over 10,000 toddlers with hot drink burns\*\* every year.

Pronteau means: •No easy reach Kettle. •Cool touch spout, body and handle.

•Compliant with building regs at 98°C\*. •2 stage safety handle prevents accidental delivery.

•Easy to use, no more heavy kettles to handle.

\* 100°C boiling hot water taps do not pass UK building regulations Part G(3).

\*\* The Children's Burns Trust.

### Reduce Plastic Waste

Pronteau could help you save\* 2920 plastic water bottles each year!

\*\* 13 billion plastic bottles end up in landfill each year in the UK. \*If you currently buy your water in ½ litre bottles PRONTEAU 4 IN 1 could help you save 2920 bottles each year. A great contribution to the environment.



Reduce Plastic Waste \*\* Source:  
[publications.parliament.uk/pa/cm201719/cmselect/cmenvaud/339/339.pdf](http://publications.parliament.uk/pa/cm201719/cmselect/cmenvaud/339/339.pdf)

▲ Pronteau Prothia 3 IN 1 with Quad spout in Matt Black £699

# Making Space...

We may dream of kitchens that are spacious and filled with light, but often the reality is something more compact and dull. So, here are some tips on how to make the most of a smaller kitchen with a little help from the kitchen sink and tap!

## Scale down the Sink

If worktop space is at a premium in a kitchen then a compact sink, that is multi-functional in design, really helps make the most of the area. Solutions like this Studio compact sink are great for this. Only 500mm wide with a generous depth, to make the chore of washing up large pans easy. It also comes complete with a strainer, colander and mini bowl to really help double up as a food preparation area too.



Abode Studio Compact Sink / food prep area  
Photograph: Janus Interiors in Bingley, West Yorks.

## Free Up Space in the Fridge

A tap with a built-in filter not only makes it easy for the whole family to drink their daily quota of pleasant tasting water, it means there's no need for a filter jug on the worktop or in the fridge door.

Water filter taps look just like any other kitchen tap but they offer not only hot and cold water but have a diverter for filtered cold water too. Great for hard water areas, they deliver an endless supply of fresh tasting water on tap.

Or, fit a Swich device to your existing tap, it adds the ability to divert the water supply when the cold handle is operated through a filter below the sink. It enables your existing tap to supply fresh filtered water.



## Swap the Kettle for a Hot Water Tap



Opt for a steaming hot water tap that's slimline and not big and bulky in a compact space. Then you can also say goodbye to waiting for the kettle to boil before you can make a brew and enjoy more space on your kitchen worktops. With water delivered at up to 98°C at the turn of the tap, this technology has lots of advantages in terms of convenience and is one piece of kitchen tech you'll wonder how you ever got by without!

## Choose an Undermounted Sink

A built under sink ensures the worktop flow is continuous and uninterrupted. It results in a streamlined finish and encourages a clutter free workspace, adding the illusion of space in a smaller kitchen. Solid surface white worktops add light to a small room and are particularly on trend too.



Abode Matrix GR15 sink in grey metallic granite. Photograph: Janus Interiors, Bingley, West Yorks.



Abode Matrix R15 sink in stainless steel. Photograph: Home Design HQ Sheffield.



Abode single lever Althia tap in Brushed Brass sits on a solid surface worktop with integral formed sink.



Abode Matrix GR15 sink in black metallic granite. Photograph: Home Design HQ Sheffield.

# Industrial Design In Not Out!

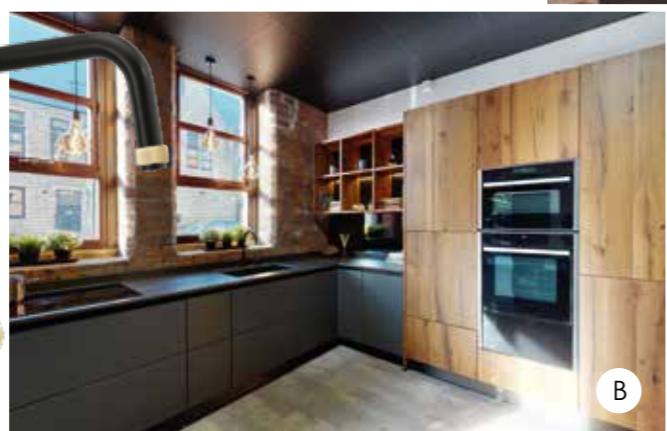
Industrial styling has been around for over 30 years taking its cues from old factories, that in the past two decades have been converted to living space in abundance.

In its raw form it has an unfinished feel about it, with exposed brickwork and concrete finishes, metal pipework on view and as close to the original black banded window glazing that one can get, minus the drafts. It is minimalism with impactful features and a desire to upcycle original elements to give them new life and use. But as with most trends there are elements that can look great in lots of environments and the skill is deciding how far to go.

Dark concrete worktops or polished concrete kitchen floors, add black metal shelving or table legs and look for knurled cabinet handles or taps to complete the look.



A



B



C

A: Abode HEX Professional tap would also look the part in this kitchen.

Photo: Meliora Kitchens, Yorkshire

B: Abode HEX monobloc in matt black and antique brass would complement this kitchen a treat.

Photo: Inspired Designs, Leeds

C: Abode FRACTION single lever in brushed nickel could also complete this look.

Photo: Leicht Contracts, London



# Multigenerational Living

According to the Office for National Statistics multi-family homes have been the fastest growing household type over the last two decades and Aviva research recently reported that 34% of adults are now living in a multi-generational household.

The mix of these homes appear to be mainly adult children either not leaving home or moving back into their family home with partners whilst they save money for their own house. Some however are where grandparents are moving back to a flat within the property.



Whatever the circumstances, it is unquestionably a trend that is growing and one that needs to be considered when designing a new kitchen for these homes. The kitchen needs to not only look great but be functional and safe for young and old and product designers have over the last decade been creating products that are 'designed for all'

ages which has resulted in some great solutions.

When it comes to taps it's important that they are easy to grip despite failing dexterity and incorporate easy to use functionality, like pull out or professional pull around taps are very useful. Any near boiling hot taps should also be selected with an effective safety feature to prevent scalding of young hands. Large sinks for easy washing of baking trays and larger pans are also a great idea.



A near boiling hot water tap is a really useful option in a large family home. It delivers 98 degree water convenient for all hot drinks and for quickly filling pans for cooking. Shown here is the Pronteau 4 IN 1 Propure tap with a swan spout and in an Urban Copper finish.



Above: Abode Agilis tap, shown here in Brushed Brass, features a knurled collar on the spout exit. The handle is located on the front of the tap body making it really easy to use. It's available in 5 colours too.



This stainless steel sink is a modern twist on the traditional Belfast design. Large enough to cater for lots of washing up and it paired here with the Atlas Professional tap with clip out rinsing hose. Larger sinks are a popular choice for an extended family kitchen having to cater for many mouths.



This Abode Coniq tap in Brushed Nickel comes with really handy pullout hose technology for the easy rinsing of dishes. Many sinks today are undermounted like this one, saving worktop space.

# Traditional Comeback

Arguably one of the latest interior trends is the comeback of traditional design. We've seen a 2000% increase in searches on traditional design terms in google over the past few months making classical and traditional taps a product group that's set to grow alongside this trend.

As usual with any design cycle, there are always slight changes to the look and traditional design has certainly been modernised as demonstrated by some of the Instagram influencers we stay in touch with here....



▲ Check out this dove grey shaker kitchen with brass cup handles, modern range cooker with stunning pendant lights. Here our Astbury Bridge Mixer tap in Forged Brass looks a treat coupled with our 795mm large Provincial sink in white ceramic. Credit: Instagram @edwardian



► A simple white shaker door with small distressed brass knobs and cup handles with 595mm Belfast ceramic sink complemented by the Abode Ludlow bridge mixer in Antique Brass. Credit: Instagram @charjs\_interiors



◀ It's the knurled handle detailing and the classic marble veined worktop with Belfast sink that turns this black kitchen into a classic design. Complemented by the latest Pronto Proprete swan neck, near boiling hot water tap in Brushed Brass offering regular hot and cold water plus 98 degree water and filtered water on tap. Credit: Instagram @staggeringkitchens



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