

Happier Homes

Country Kitchens



THE COUNTRY KITCHEN is enormously popular. Tile a hood, counter and/or cabinet doors to create that provincial feeling. Here, counter, range hood and backsplash tile is tiled and true blue and white by American Olean. The cabinet door medallion motif is a Wenzel tile idea.

BY LIS KING

The kitchen has come full circle. In our forefathers' days it was the definite heart of the home, full of warmth, good smells and convivial talk.

Then came the appliance craze, which transformed kitchens to clinical-looking meal factories.

And now the country look is sweeping the kitchen scene, once more creating an aura of comfort and hospitality.

But as easy as that country look appears, it's a puzzler to a lot of people. Just how does one create a country kitchen if adding a fireplace or dine-in table are beyond space and budget limitations?

So here, from the Tile Council of America, is some advice that proves that unsquare thinking is more important than square footage and budget:

- Tile your kitchen counters. It'll prove you're serious about good cooking. Tile-it-yourself to save important dollars.

- Plan an herb garden. It can be as simple as potted herbs on the window sill or as elaborate as a planter set into the counter.

- Hanging pots are still another possibility. Use grow lamps if your kitchen suffers from northern exposure.

- Got a streamlined range hood? Tile it to duplicate a bit of the French provinces.

- Beams—even the fake variety—will add country feeling to your kitchen.

- Baskets are countryish. Hang them from the ceiling or on the wall.

- If you don't have room for a dine-in table, try to fit in a dine-in ledge. Tile it for good looks, easy upkeep.

- A pass-through counter that serves breakfast and lunches on

an everyday basis is an especially good idea.

- Tile cabinet fronts to banish the sameness blues. Blue Delft-type or stylized medallion tile motifs are perfect.

Or you might choose Pennsylvania Dutch or sampler tiles for your cabinet spruce-up project.

- Bushels and bowls of fruit on your countertops are decidedly countryish.

- If Spanish or Provencal cooking is your thing, choose hex-shaped tile for floors and/or counters.

For more ideas on decorating with tile, send 50 cents to the Tile Council of America, P.O. Box 2222, Princeton, NJ

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