

# ASK A PRO

by **Rory McLean, certified kitchen designer at Binns Kitchens**

**Q.** I am going to remodel my kitchen, but I am having a difficult time deciding what kind of sink I should purchase. What do you recommend?

**A.** There are many new materials, shapes, colours and variable prices for a homeowner to consider when purchasing a kitchen sink. The best way that I could help you decide would be to give you a list of the different types with advantages and disadvantages of each.

TYPE	ADVANTAGE	DISADVANTAGE
<b>Stainless steel</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- generally lower cost</li> <li>- numerous shapes and sizes</li> <li>- very durable</li> <li>- can be mounted under solid surface material</li> <li>- non-porous/ no chipping</li> <li>- popular</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- not much of a change from what we had for years</li> <li>- shows scratches on graining more than other types (except acrylic)</li> </ul>
<b>Acrylic/ Fibreglass</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- generally inexpensive</li> <li>- numerous shapes and sizes</li> <li>- non-porous</li> <li>- unpopular</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- not suitable as a main sink</li> <li>- not heat-resistant</li> <li>- easily scratched</li> </ul>
<b>Pressed Quartz</b> (Has many trademark names, i.e. Asterite, Quartzite, Silicron)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- numerous shapes and sizes</li> <li>- variety of colors</li> <li>- extremely durable</li> <li>- has continuous color throughout</li> <li>- will not flake or fade</li> <li>- heat and scratch resistant</li> <li>- popular</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- generally higher in cost</li> </ul>
<b>Baked Enamel on Cast Iron</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- numerous shapes and sizes</li> <li>- some can be under-mounted</li> <li>- very durable</li> <li>- non-porous</li> <li>- variety of colors</li> <li>- high gloss finish</li> <li>- generally less expensive than pressed quartz</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- very heavy, takes 2 people to install</li> <li>- glossy finish can fade after years of use</li> <li>- if it does chip (which is not easy to do) it cannot be repaired</li> </ul>
<b>Solid Surface</b> (Has many trademark names, i.e. Corian, Fountainhead, Avonite, Gibraltar, etc.)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- non porous</li> <li>- flush mounted</li> <li>- fused together at counter; no visible seams</li> <li>- continuous color throughout</li> <li>- variety of shapes and sizes</li> <li>- popular</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- somewhat limited color choices</li> <li>- only for installation in solid surface countertops</li> <li>- high cost</li> </ul>
<b>Granite</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- totally different</li> <li>- unique</li> <li>- can be custom made to any size specification</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- square edges</li> <li>- seams</li> <li>- porous</li> <li>- not practical</li> <li>- high cost</li> <li>- not for the faint of heart</li> </ul>

Other things to consider are: lifestyle and whether or not you have a dishwasher or a second sink. Write down all your requirements and choose a sink, or sinks, that best meet your needs.

Also, consult a kitchen specialist. They have the knowledge and literature to help you with your decision taking into consideration many factors such as maintenance, etc.

*If you would like to ask a question about kitchens, baths or any other remodelling projects for future ASK A PRO columns, write to The Economist and Sun, 9 Heritage Rd., Markham, L3P 1M3 or fax to 294-1538. ASK A PRO will be a regular feature in the Home Impressions section of The Weekender, and is provided courtesy of Binns Kitchens' three certified kitchen designers.*



Photos/SJOERD WITTEVEEN

## Firemen to the rescue

Firefighters were summoned to Ballantrae on Monday to put out a fire which took place at a farm on the Aurora Sideroad. At far right, firefighters climb up a ladder to spray some water

into the smouldering hayloft. In the left photo, horses that occupied the barn were led out of the fire to a safe area. None of the horses were injured.

## Fifth person arrested in misappropriation

Another arrest has been made in the case of fraud involving the misappropriation of \$25,000 from the York County Bowman Association.

A 25-year-old Aurora man of Golf Links Dr. in Aurora was arrested Jan. 25 accused of fraud against the Stouffville-based Bowman Association.

The accused marks the fifth person arrested in the case since Dec. 7.

The accused persons in the case are charged with misappropriating the money between Aug. 1 and Aug. 31, 1993.



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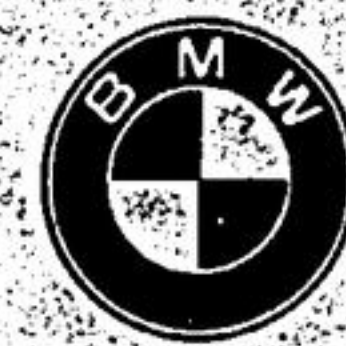
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