

## ASK THE PRO KITCHEN REPORT

### 5 Design Ideas from Ray Silva



COURTESY OF GREENVILLE KITCHENS

**1 Cabinetry** Choose a style that matches your home's architecture. For example, if you have a 200-year-old farmhouse, consider a distressed finish and perhaps a mantel hood with large corbels.

**2 Countertops** Granite is still the number one choice due to durability. Today it's more affordable with a huge selection and it's virtually indestructible. And, the darker the stone the less porous it is, so the less it will stain. Just seal it a few times a year.

**3 Appliances** Gas ranges in larger sizes (thirty-six-inch to forty-eight-inch) are more popular now. So are built-in refrigerators that are countertop depth and don't protrude into traffic areas. Panelized dishwashers that look like cabinetry and blend in to their surroundings have a lot of design appeal. The hot items: microwave/convection oven combinations.

**4 Flooring** Hardwood is still the number one choice for its beauty and warmth. Ceramic comes in second, but it's hard to stand on for a long time. Laminates are still very popular and have come a long way in terms of style and colors. Some even look like stone!

**5 Plumbing** Farmer's sinks are popular, even in contemporary situations, for their size and ease of use. These days they're made in all kinds of material, even bamboo. The new touch faucets are gaining a lot of attention for ease of use and wow factor. In addition, pot fillers over the stove are being requested more often.



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No one knows her way around a kitchen better than Susan DeAngelus Valles, owner of Twin Oaks Restaurant in Cranston, Rhode Island. When she built her new home in Scituate, RI, she wanted a kitchen designer who would understand her tastes, and a company that provides experience, exceptional service, and quality products.

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