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# EUROCUCINA 2022

Milan, Italy

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## A look at trends

This year, Salone del Mobile was highly anticipated with the cancellation in 2020 due to the pandemic and it did not disappoint! The line up to get into the show was jam packed as usual and you could feel the buzz of excitement to enter the halls to commence the journey of future kitchen and bath trends. While it was evident that the number of visitors and vendors was less than previous years, there was a lot of traffic and there were several line ups to get into a significant number of vendor booths.

There was a lot to see this year and it was evident that there has been a shift in trends of kitchens and bathrooms. We no longer see glossy finishes and has the classic white kitchen gone away? Perhaps not, but we definitely saw it sparingly in the Salone halls. What we did see were warm, matte finish pastel tones such as sage green and taupe or rather bright, bold colours like yellow and burnt orange. Clean lines and minimalist look very much took the lead this year at the show.



Entry to Salone del Mobile Milano

## The latest from Milan, Italy

### Kitchen Trends

Lighting appeared in almost all cabinetry whether in drawers or in upper cabinets. The lighting is very intuitive in that it shuts off when drawers, doors and lift systems are closed however, activates when opened.

Electrical assist technology was quite common this year which allowed for handleless fronts and clean minimalist look in base and upper cabinets.

We noticed a very artistic appeal with materials where wood, stone and metals met to create beautiful contrast.

Sometimes big IS better! We often saw very wide upper and lower cabinets which clearly optimizes usable storage space and allows ample space for larger items. In addition, the configuration of the cabinets appears to have changed at this show. The exterior of the base cabinets is split in two deep drawers with inner pullouts behind the deep drawers to show fewer exterior lines while maximizing every square inch of space inside the cabinetry.

While we did see a dominance in vertical lift systems in upper cabinets, we notice that there was a unique melding of closed upper cabinetry with open shelving. This allows the user to display unique pieces that they would like to proudly display.

Another trend is textured fronts which appeared to have a feel of wallpaper, but also mixed metals and a vertical wood slat look were quite popular. Surfaces were not always flat and smooth but at times had a wave like look and feel.

We saw thick doors as well as thin doors using solid surface, heavy materials. Upper and lower cabinets were designed and constructed with the same material as the countertop to create a complete waterfall look of the whole kitchen making it appear as one piece of beautiful furniture.



Kitchen: Veneta Cucine



Textured fronts



Slat fronts



Solid surface materials (top, sides & fronts)

**Trend**  
Mitered Edges



Mitered Edges



Mitered Edges/Stone fronts



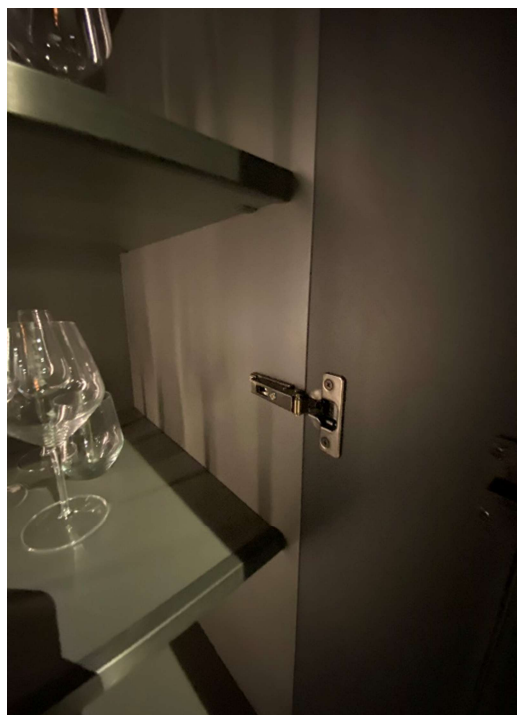
**Trend**  
Mixed Materials



Thin Fronts



Dark Interiors



**Trend**  
Lighting



Thick Fronts



Matching Materials



## Other highlights to be noted

Kitchens appear to be not only beautiful but also very functional. Convenience in the kitchen was definitely noticed. Pull-out shelves that make small appliances easily accessible now come right to you, so you don't have to lift. Toe kick drawers were integrated into the design to add additional storage space and necessary for those high to reach items in upper cabinets. Organization in kitchens was very noticeable and more than we have seen in previous years. Who doesn't want to be organized? Many of the booths accessorized their space with greenery and incorporated wood grains to give a feel of warmth, serenity then creatively accented with mixed metals. We saw a trend of glass door furniture in kitchens and other living spaces with thin aluminum frames and dark interiors that showcase dark functional hardware.

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# Highlight of the show

## Pocket Doors Systems

Whether your space is large or small, there seems to be a trend for pocket doors in the home. Perhaps a small office space can be hidden when not in use or maybe you want to create a room separation in an open concept layout. You may want to hide dirty dishes after hosting some guests at your home. We saw these systems everywhere and they work very well! Many operated with a very light touch and even partially opening and closing with a slight touch.



Photo: DNA3 booth with REVEGO by Blum

