

## Going green with kitchen design

Home chefs everywhere are taking a new approach when designing their dream kitchens. Beyond upscale tools and high end appliances, they also want eco-friendly and environmentally smart features. Here are the top trends in eco-friendly kitchen design.

### Green countertops

When it comes to selecting eco-conscious kitchen countertops, the greenest countertops are made from recycled materials such as glass, cement, porcelain and even paper. These products are environmentally friendly, and can be stunning with complex colours and upscale designs that fit into any aesthetic.

### Fireplace bake ovens

A fireplace/bake oven combo is a beautiful focal point that is as useful as it is stylish. Tulikivi soapstone fireplace ovens warm kitchens and provide home chefs an extremely useful way to bake. These bakeovens store heat in the thermal mass of the soapstone: a two-hour burn can radiate heat for up to 24 hours producing clean, comfortable, cost-saving warmth. Learn more by visiting Tulikivi on YouTube or Tulikivi.us.

### Eco-friendly cabinets

Appearance isn't the only thing home chefs are considering when shopping for cabinetry. Most pressed wood cabinets are made with a resin called urea-formaldehyde, which can be unhealthy. Buying cabinets made from solid wood helps avoid this concern. Cabinets made from sustainable materials are



in high demand, like bamboo or wood that has been responsibly harvested.

### Greenhouse garden windows

Not only do greenhouse garden windows let natural light into the space to cut energy expenses, they also feature a recessed ledge ideal for potted plants. That means this eye-catching window also allows home chefs to grow their own herbs year round.

### Energy efficient appliances

Appliances alone account for a whopping 13 percent of a household's energy costs. Refrigeration and cooking appliances are the biggest energy drains, so it's no surprise that green kitchens feature Energy Star approved appliances.

### Smart faucets

Today's kitchen faucets have entered the smart age. More than just low-flow for water conservation, smart faucets offer additional ways to go green. Some have motion sensors so with a wave of the hand they turn on quickly and then turn off after a designated amount of time. Home chefs enjoy features like

quick temperature changes too, which make it easy to cook and saves water.

### Reclaimed materials

New doesn't always mean the best. Vintage reclaimed tile is fantastic for creating a conversation-worthy backsplash that no other kitchen has. Another option is reclaimed wood from barns or schoolhouses, which can be transformed into unique flooring.

The green movement is here to stay and home chefs are embracing kitchen design that offers upscale elegance while being eco-friendly. (BPT)



*Wishing our members a safe,  
healthy and worry-free 2016.*

*Best wishes  
Homeservice Club staff*

## WINTER SPECIALS

**\$100 off**

**HARDWOOD OR LAMINATE FLOORING**

ON ORDERS OVER \$2,000 (EXCL. TAXES)

\*Valid Jan. 15 - Mar. 31, 2016

**\$100 off**

**INTERIOR PAINTING**

ON ORDERS OVER \$2,000 (EXCL. TAXES)

\*Valid Jan. 15 - Mar. 31, 2016

**FREE**

**1-HOUR ARCHITECTURAL DESIGN CONSULTATION (\$75 value)**

\*Valid Jan. 15 - Mar. 31, 2016

**\$50 off**

**DRYWALL OR PLASTERING**

ON ORDERS OVER \$750 (EXCL. TAXES)

\*Valid Jan. 15 - Mar. 31, 2016

**\$10 off**

**GAS FURNACE OR FIREPLACE CLEANING**

\*Valid Jan. 15 - Mar. 31, 2016

\*All work must be done by Homeservice-authorized contractors. This coupon has no cash value. One coupon per job, per member. Not valid with any other offers or coupons. All orders must be placed and accepted within the specified time frame to qualify for the discount.

**CALL (416) 925-1111**

## PLANNING ON RENOVATING? *Start with an architectural consultation*

With an uncertain real estate market and soaring house prices in Toronto, many homeowners are opting to stay put and renovate rather than move. The housing stock is aging and people who have owned their homes for many years have equity value. This, and low interest rates, are making renovating an attractive alternative to moving.

But once you've made the decision to renovate, how do you get the process underway? For major renovations such as an addition, a consultation with an architectural designer is a smart way to start. Even smaller renovations can benefit from a consultation if the project involves moving structural walls, creating a basement apartment or a new rear deck. All these projects require working drawings by architectural and engineering consultants and approved building permits, which an architectural designer can arrange.



An initial consultation will cost about \$75. Fees for the design process will vary according to the size of the project.

Once you have the drawings and permits in hand, you can seek quotes from qualified building contractors to complete the job.

If you are adding to a building or moving interior walls, an architectural designer can help ensure that your project moves ahead smoothly. By presenting working drawings during the bidding process, you can be assured that contractors are submitting competitive bids, based on the same scope of work.



**Homeservice Club and Spencer Health Network are now offering members savings on Health and Dental!!**

**Free Trial Membership for Club members starting in 2016. Details on our website.**

[www.homeserviceclub.com/dental](http://www.homeserviceclub.com/dental)

**ICE MELTER**

**Great prices DELIVERY INCLUDED!**

**(416) 925-1111**

**EMERGENCY service**  
**24/7**



**(416) 925-1111**

**Member Benefits**  
**YOU SAVE ON ....**

- Home Heating Oil**
- New & Leased Cars**
- ... and much more!**

[www.homeserviceclub.com](http://www.homeserviceclub.com)

# WINDOW SHOPPING

Today's new high-performance windows can have a tremendous impact on your home in terms of energy conservation. National Resources Canada estimates windows and doors account for 25 per cent of all heat loss, so it makes sense to keep them in good repair.

Existing windows can be made more efficient by retrofitting caulking and weatherstripping, or adding glazed glass and storm windows. But, if your windows are 15 years or older it probably makes sense to invest in new, high-performance ENERGY STAR® qualified windows.

Windows are an investment that rank as one of the top 10 home improvements you can make in terms of resale value. It pays to do your homework and shop carefully. Here are some tips on window shopping that will pay off in increased energy savings:

- Look for low-emissivity (low-E) coatings (one-way invisible coatings that let



more heat in than radiates out), double or triple or even quadruple glazing, windows in which an inert gas is sealed between window panes to cut down on heat transfer, good air seals, insulated frames and sashes, and low-conductivity spacers.

- Window installation is not a do-it-yourself job. Make sure your installer is a qualified professional.
- Ask about warranties, parts and labour. Look for at least a five-year warranty on sealed glazing. A one-year warranty is standard for labour.

Investing in new windows will make your home quieter, brighter and more comfortable all year round, while reducing your energy costs.

## WINTER SPECIALS

**\$500 off**

KITCHEN, BATH OR  
BASEMENT RENOVATIONS

ON ORDERS OVER \$8,000 (EXCL. TAXES)

\*Valid Jan. 15 - Mar. 31, 2016

**\$100 off**

REPLACEMENT WINDOWS

ON ORDERS OVER \$2,000 (EXCL. TAXES)

\*Valid Jan. 15 - Mar. 31, 2016

**\$40 off**

TREE PRUNING

ON ORDERS OVER \$500 (EXCL. TAXES)

\*Valid Jan. 15 - Mar. 31, 2016

**\$25 off**

FAUCET REPLACEMENTS

ON ORDERS OVER \$250 (EXCL. TAXES)

\*Valid Jan. 15 - Mar. 31, 2016

**\$20 off**

DUCT CLEANING

ON ORDERS OVER \$150 (EXCL. TAXES)

\*Valid Jan. 15 - Mar. 31, 2016

\*All work must be done by Homeservice-authorized contractors. This coupon has no cash value. One coupon per job, per member. Not valid with any other offers or coupons. All orders must be placed and accepted within the specified time frame to qualify for the discount.

**CALL (416) 925-1111**

**SAVE on HOME SECURITY SYSTEMS**

- FREE state-of-the-art security system
- FREE installation
- 24-hr. monitoring
- Monitoring pkg. starting from as low as \$25.95 per month plus HST
- Insurance certificate
- 3-year warranty

**(416) 925-1111**

Enjoy your home with  
**WORRY-FREE PLANS**

from just  
**\$239<sup>+HST</sup>**

Choose from 4 plans

- 6 major Appliances
- Furnace
- A/C System
- Combo plan



# RESOLVE to maintain your home in 2016

Most of us make a resolution or two as the new year rolls around; hit the gym more often, drop a few pounds, shake those bad habits. Homeowners, too, should make a few resolutions of their own that will pay off in lower expenses and higher real estate value.

It makes economic sense to keep what is likely your biggest investment in tip-top shape. A well-maintained home shows well and pays off in increased resale value. It also lowers costs less in the long run by preventing minor repairs left untended from becoming major expenses.

January is the perfect time to take a hard look at your home and prioritize repair or renovation projects. It's a good idea

to make a list of things that need to be done and start lining up quotes from contractors now before the trades get busier in the spring. You might even save money by having the work done before the spring rush!

Also make a list of all those annoying little jobs that need to be done and start tackling them: hang those window blinds that have been sitting there for weeks, clean out the hall closet and install organizers, paint the guest room, redo the bathroom, spruce up the kitchen ... (or call Homeservice Club!)

Clean or replace the filters on your furnace, humidifier and air cleaner to improve the quality of air in your home.

Winter is a good time for pruning or removing dead and diseased trees.

Keep an eye on your eavestrough system this winter. Icicles hanging down from gutters indicate blockages that could contribute to ice damming and expensive roof damage. Make sure gutters are clear of debris, and have splits and broken hangers repaired.



[WWW.HOMESERVICECLUB.COM](http://WWW.HOMESERVICECLUB.COM)

## Put your HOMESERVICE CLUB membership to work

- Additions
- Basements
- Bathrooms
- Carpet Cleaning
- Decks
- Decorating
- Driveways
- Eavestroughs
- Electrical
- Flooring
- Garden rooms
- Garage Doors
- Heating Systems
- Home Theatres
- Home Offices
- HVAC
- In-law Suites
- Interlocking brick
- Kitchens
- Landscaping
- Painting
- Pest Control
- Plumbing
- Roofing
- Waterproofing
- Windows & Doors
- and much MORE!



For up to 3 free quotes and 24-hour emergency services, call (416) 925-1111



64 Prince Andrew Place Toronto ON M3C 2H4

