germ control options, is high in demand. Crosswater, London's Ressa intelligent toilet, is an affordable way to upgrade with all the bells and whistles. From a soft-close, antibacterial seat and front and rear washing settings, among many other luxurious features, it doesn't disappoint. Another admirable aspect of the Ressa is all proceeds are donated to Upstream, an organization that supports efforts to eliminate plastic and pollution.



### **Chef Worthy Workstations**

Workstations that streamline cooking, food prep, and cleaning are no longer for professional chefs, but are now an emerging trend that adds a touch of ease to everyday routines. For the ultimate culinary experience, The Galley offers an ergonomically efficient station, seamlessly transforming from prep to serve

in an instant. For farmhouse sink lovers, Elkay makes a fire clay apron kitchen sink that can convert into a single bowl workstation for a fine mix of functionality and farmhouse chic.









**KB Home** is an award winning, full service kitchen and bath design studio based in Westport. Owner, Karen Berkemeyer, had this to say about current trends in Connecticut:

"In Connecticut homes, there are emerging trends, which will continue to evolve, and set the stage for elegant luxury, peppered with functional flair for years to come."

(continued)

## Kitchen and Bath Trends 2022 (continued)



Design by Karen Berkemeyer, Photography by Eric Piasecki

### Color

Mixing white cabinetry with islands in wood stains or colors (or white islands with colored perimeter). Blue is still strong, but greens are surfacing. Entire kitchens in dark colors – black/ dark gray/ blue black.

#### Tile

Larger tiles are being used on shower walls and on backsplashes. Entire kitchen walls are being tiled with floating shelves attached to them. Glazed tiles are being used in many colors in bathrooms.

Design by Karen Berkemeyer, Photography by Tim Lenz



# **Seamless Surfaces and Slab Backsplashes**

Corian has become popular with stone and concrete looks. Any length is possible as the seams are invisible. Slab backsplashes are a way of simplifying the kitchen, and very practical without grout joints.



### **Grout Lines**

If the tiles are a perfect shape, then a minimal grout joint is desirable (1/16"). If tiles are somewhat irregular, then 1/8" works better.

### Hardware

Hardware doesn't need to match the faucet finish. The lighting can be 2 tone or work with one of the finishes.

### **Pantries**

Pantries can be a place to keep small appliances and have a sink & dishwasher for a clean up area. Sometimes it works to have a pass through from the main kitchen into the pantry.

Design by Karen Berkemeyer & Sandy Effren, Greyrock Homes

