

he start of the year welcomes in an abundance of bold new ideas across a variety of industries. This month, we discuss 2019's upcoming trends and themes with some of the kitchen industry's top experts to see where retailers should focus their attention – from appliances and fittings to colours and finishes.

CDA's marketing manager Steve Corbett believes that consumers in 2019 will be looking at how to improve the kitchen space they already have, in order to make life in the home more efficient. "We believe customers will be looking for appliances that make life easier – which is why we have introduced features such as induction hobs that can do everything from melting chocolate to rapid boiling at the touch of a button, washing machines where items can be added after the cycle has started and cooling that keeps food in top condition. Efficient, easy living is key for us. People want appliances that look good and are easy to use."

For those who wish to mimic a restaurant within their home, Smeg's line of professionalstyle appliances are a key investment – and the start of an upcoming trend. "People are opting to eat in more and entertain guests from home, becoming more inclined to cook from scratch as opposed to going out. Smeg is keen to tap into this market, and will be launching brand-new vacuum drawers, a sous vide drawer and blast chillers." Such innovations allow more room for culinary experimentation and at-home efficiency.

Saving space is also key, and we'll begin to see people incorporating more and more appliances that cater to open- and broken-plan kitchens. Tony McCarthy, commercial director of Crown Imperial says: "We expect to see a stronger shift towards defined open-plan kitchen designs, as consumers seek to create distinctive working and social zones that meet the needs of modern family life." McCarthy suggests sleek handleless cabinetry, as "the use of complementary furniture choices effortlessly connects individual kitchen and living spaces." This means finding the right appliances and fittings to ensure the kitchen and living room meet in a harmonious way.

"Open-plan living throws up some practical challenges," explains Willi Bruckbear, founder of Bora. "One of these regards cooking odours, something that conventional extractor hoods are not always capable of addressing adequately. Grease and vapour can quickly settle on surfaces and penetrate materials, so solutions that prevent this will grow in popularity" – think island cooker hoods and extraction built directly into the hob to save space while providing function.

With space-saving convenience at the forefront of a lot of consumers' minds, we can also expect to see demand for hot water taps on the rise in 2019. Leanne Adamson, marketing manager at Abode, notes how there's been a 135% increase in Pinterest searches for hot water taps. "Figures tell us that growth of steaming hot water taps and those with an in-built filter is likely to be strong in 2019. There are several reasons for this trend, not least the convenience that hot water taps offer no more waiting for the kettle to boil to make

▶ a hot drink; in fact the kettle can now be removed from the worktop altogether, freeing up space." Alongside hot taps are regular taps and sinks, which are also seeing a change in trends in terms of colour and style. Luke Shipway, Caple's product manager explains: "While stainless steel remains the most popular choice for many consumers, we are seeing a growing and sustainable demand for coloured sinks and different materials. Sinks are certainly becoming more of a focal point in the kitchen – a unique feature as opposed to just somewhere you wash up – so we anticipate a growing demand for more statement styles in the future. Black finishes on taps will continue to rise in popularity for modern kitchens, and metallics such as copper and gunmetal will be featured more prominently for a more stylish wet zone."

Black is most certainly here to stay, with Franke's managing director Neil Clarke attesting that fact - thanks in part to the surge in the popularity of the industrial aesthetic. "Coloured taps, especially in dark coloured metal, will get a stronger foothold in the mid-market this year because of the continued trend towards mixing materials, and black taps in a matt finish work very well with the trend for industrial styling that looks set to run through 2019 and beyond."

Gerd Meier, product designer at Pronorm, also predicts that black will continue to reign supreme in 2019 - and not just on appliances, but fittings as well. He says: "I think we'll see black being more confidently used on kitchen furniture, say in a tall bank of units to frame other elements such as the island unit, rather than just small accent features. It's an elite colour for the design-aware, and when used in a considered way can look outstanding."

PRONTEAU PROFESSIONAL

Tel: 01226 283 434. www.abodedesigns.co.uk

The Pronteau Professional 3-in-I hot water tap provides steaming-hot, 98°C filtered water instantly from the extension bar. With a spray function for standard hot and cold water supply, the filter ensures that water hardness is reduced, and removes odours and bad tastes and extends the life of the boiler. It's available in brushed nickel, pictured, and chrome





ACTIVE PLUS PULL-OUT SPRAY TAP

Tel: 0161 436 6280. www.franke.com

The contemporary Active Plus Pull-Out Spray tap range from Franke is available in four metallic finishes of Graphite. pictured, Smokey Mirror, matt black and brass, in addition to chrome. The single-lever tap measures 310mm high with a spout reach of 236mm. It rotates a full 360° and its pull-out nozzle makes it ideal for rinsing and washing



KARNS CHROMITE BLACK TAP

Tel: 0117 938 1900. www.caple.co.uk

Caple's single lever Karns Chromite Black tap is made from solid stainless steel and features a chic and innovative chromite black finish. Its streamlined, monobloc design will complement all styles of sink – from ceramic and stainless steel, to composite. It has a single lever ceramic valve and requires a minimum of 0.5 bar pressure. It has a height of 265mm with a 213mm reach



SPECIAL REPORT

ALBA OAK BLACK DOORS

Tel: 07801 862 691. www.pronorm.de

Pronorm cuts a luxury design note this year with new door finishes in Alba Oak Black, pictured on the tall bank of units framing the island unit in Breccia Paradiso Marble matt laminate. Adding to the elegant aesthetics is Titanium Metal in a low-sheen, anti-fingerprint metallic lacquer on wall units and cabinetry. All doors are available across all ranges of Y-Line, X-Line, Pro-Line and Classic-Line



PC900BL FRIDGE-FREEZER

Tel: 01949 862012. www.cda.eu

CDA's four-door fridge-freezer with multi-zone is a new addition to the company's refrigeration collection. Pictured in black, the fridge includes a number of features, including Q drink for quick cooling of beverages, a multi-zone section which can either be used as a fridge or a freezer for total food storage flexibility, and Cold Wrap Cooling - a system that circulates cool air around food to keep it fresher for longer. The fridge-freezer also features bright LED interior lighting



Tel: 0844 557 0070. www.smeguk.com

Smeg's Classic Aesthetic CPV3 I 5X vacuum drawer is the ideal appliance for the discerning chef, allowing the user to organise, prepare and preserve food in a revolutionary way. Featuring touch controls, a push-pull mechanism and a reseal function, it has three levels of sealing and an automatic dehumidification pump cycle. It is suitable for fitting directly beneath a 45cm compact steam oven or blast chiller, both of which fit in a standard 60cm aperture



FENIX NTM WORKTOPS

Tel: 0845 7298 298. www.fenixworksurfaces.com

Consumers can give their kitchen a touch of the black trend with IDS' luxurious ultramatt Fenix NTM range. Perfect for worktops, breakfast bars, island components and splashbacks, it does not show fingerprints, is ultra-hygienic, highly resistant to solvents and can heal micro scratches simply by rubbing with a sponge or applying gentle heat. Pictured in Grigio Bromo, the range comes in six fashionable colours in two sizes and features a slimline 28mm square-edged design for a crisp, streamlined aesthetic





WORK KITCHEN CABINET UNIT

Eggersmann Tel: 020 7078 9640.

www.eggersmann.com

The Work rotating cabinet from Eggersmann provides a wealth of storage potential, cleverly hiding pots, pans and cooking ingredients from view on the rear side. Internally illuminated, the cabinet can be mirror fronted, or smoked, black, bronze or white 8mm-thick glass. The three core elements, Turn Unit, Island and Bridge, can also be used individually and combined with other systems



AMERICAN-STYLE FRIDGE-FREEZER

Tel: 0333 207 9710. www.beko.co.uk

Beko's ASGP342 American-style fridgefreezer is equipped with NeoFrost technology and provides two times faster cooling, fresher food and a freezer that doesn't need defrosting. The EverFresh+ crisper drawer keeps your food fresher for longer for up to 30 days, and the black finish will aesthetically fit in a variety of kitchen styles



DARK STEEL DISHWASHER

Grundig Tel: 0333 207 9920.

www.grundig.co.uk

The GNF41825Z dishwasher in Dark Steel features 15-place settings, and Corner Wash technology. Unlike traditional spray arms that clean in a circular motion, Corner Wash is designed to clean in a rectangular path and is powered by a three-spray arm featuring specially created nozzles, providing a perfect clean for the entire load. With a 42dB noise-level rating, it is also perfectly suited to open-plan kitchens



BELVEDERE

Gerald Culliford

Tel: 0208 390 4656. www.geraldculliford.co.uk

Belvedere Satinato is a Natural Quartzite material originating from Angola that is characterised by stunning waved veining, ideal for those wanting to make an impact with a large piece of stone. Featuring a lot of drama with rich colours, it is ideal for making a luxurious statement on a kitchen island or countertop



PROFESSIONAL 2.0

Tel: 0203 6931 390. www.bora.com

The Bora cooktop extractor revolutionises kitchen odour extraction by removing vapours and odours directly from the cooktop, an advantage in open-plan kitchen/living environments. Simple to operate and with a professional design, the Bora Professional 2.0 can be chosen as 'plug and play', with the motor and extractor forming a single pre-configured unit, making it simple to integrate into virtually any kitchen setting



PANORAMA COMBINATION **INDUCTION HOB**

Novy Tel: 0207 866 2493.

www.novy.co.uk Novy's Panorama features

a powerful 90cm four-zone induction hob with a downdraft extractor integrated within the hob - directly behind the cooking area. When not in use, the extractor is concealed beneath the hob's surface, ideal for open-plan living. The extractor rises to three height levels – 10cm, 20cm and 30cm and extracts cooking vapours at source – behind the pans