



Rock, wood, glass & concrete: Innovative options for countertops



When designing a kitchen, one of the biggest decisions you make concerns the material you select for your countertops. Start with your style and how you function in your kitchen. Then consider appearance, durability and of course, expense. Here are some exciting choices available today.

Wood: Having a charm all its own, wood has a warm and luminous appeal for countertops. Oak, maple, cherry, red beech, walnut, teak, and mahogany are the most common. The main appeal of wood is its warmth, which adds balance to kitchens dominated by stainless steel appliances.

Concrete: Making quite a statement in your kitchen, concrete isn't just for basement floors anymore. Countertops can be pre-cast to fit a mold or cast on site. It's practical, expressive and aesthetic all at once. Geocrete™, offered by Cheng Design offers a "glass-like" finish for your concrete countertop.

Glass: One of the newest materials to hit the kitchen, glass is losing its china doll status. The highly polished surface is available in almost limitless colors, shapes, thicknesses and textures. For the discerning homeowner and a unique style, glass offers a breathtaking approach to kitchen design.

Natural Stone: The richness of natural stone makes it a desirable choice for the kitchen. In addition to being beautiful to look at, granite, a popular choice in stone, is extremely heat and scratch resistant as well as durable.

Engineered Stone: Engineered stone is available in a large range of colors. It combines some of the world's finest natural stone, granite and quartz with technology to produce exceptional countertops, and is sold under brand names including Silestone, Rocksolid Granit, and Cambria Quartz.



(1&2) Glass countertop photos courtesy ThinkGlass Inc, www.thinkglass.com

(3) Engineered stone countertop photo courtesy Granite Transformations, ABQ

(4) Natural stone countertop photo Rocky Mountain Stone, ABQ.

(5) Natural stone countertop photo Remodel Inc, ABQ

(6&7) Wood countertop photos courtesy Grothouse Lumber, www.grothouse.com

(8&9) Concrete countertop photos Mark Cohen, Design: Cheng Design, www.chengdesign.com