

METROPOLIS

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Virginia
San Fratello at
San Jose
State University

Bringing Tech Down to Earth

When digital fantasy
meets the real world

PRODUCTS

Sleek Chic

Product debuts at this year's Kitchen and Bath Industry Show suggest that a minimalist, hotel-like residential style is here to stay.

By Kelly Beamon

Decades of decluttering and advice from decor magazines have led to a popular residential style that's more hotel room than home. A review of product introductions (including some from this year's Kitchen and Bath Industry trade show in Las Vegas) signals that won't change soon, despite a few scattered experiments in maximalist baroque styles. The resilient minimalist aesthetic is evident in the number of compact, pared-down, low-profile, and nearly invisible offerings afoot. Meanwhile, designers are relying on bold, rich finishes to perform the heavy lifting of adding drama in the absence of fussy decorations. A case in point is Duravit's new Zencha bath collection, which includes dark and muted wood vanities and beautifully simple sink basins and tubs. The busiest rooms in the house are doing more with less.

01 ZENCHA COLLECTION

A German manufacturer-designer partnership produced this Japanese-influenced family of vanities, washbasins, mirrors, and tubs. Duravit's collaboration with Sebastian Herkner includes softly rectangular soaking tubs, available in 63-by-34-inch and 70-by-36-inch profiles, inspired by Japanese bathing and tea culture. DURAVIT duravit.us



COURTESY MARK SEELEN



11 ALLOY COLLECTION
To add drama without distracting detail, quartz counter manufacturer Cambria has developed a line of worktops as part of its Grandeur series that feature brass and steel alloy veining.
CAMBRIA
cambriusa.com

12 OCEAN PLASTIC SHOWERHEAD
Still in development at press time, this understated showerhead from Delta Faucet's First Wave Innovation Lab adds value with eight settings and material makeup of up to 35 percent near-shore ocean plastic. Designers can follow its development at firstwavelab.com.
DELTA FAUCET
deltafaucet.com

13 COOKING SURFACE PRIME
Italian sintered-stone manufacturer ABKSTONE has managed to further minimize already streamlined induction cooking technology by integrating it seamlessly into the company's nonporous counters.
ABKSTONE
abkstone.com

14 OASIS COLLECTION
Robert A.M. Stern Architects designed this sculptural collection of door handles, backplates, knobs, and pulls.
ROCKY MOUNTAIN HARDWARE
rockymountainhardware.com