

Heart of the Home

Written by Arizona Foothills Magazine



PHX Architecture asked, "What is your favorite room?" And, the overwhelming response was "The Kitchen!" In many homes, the kitchen is the heart. It's the center of attention, the pulse of the house, and of course the room that gets the most use morning to night.



People are drawn to their kitchens like no other room in the house. They are willing to walk away from their big screen TVs, cozy couches, and inviting bathtubs and stand for hours in the kitchen talking, cooking and entertaining. If people are determined to spend so much time in their kitchens, why not make it the best place to do it?

When we design homes, we ask our clients to consider how they live. Do they like reading next to a window, do they enjoy cooking and hosting parties, or would they rather hang out and watch T.V? Many of our clients say they would like their kitchen to serve as a great entertainment room, one that is bright and cheery, yet roomy but not too big. To achieve this, here are some things to consider:



Occupy vs. Live Do you occupy your home or do you *live* in your home. There's a big difference between the two and finding out what aspects of your home make you feel comfortable and at ease is a great way to enjoy and make the most out of your home. Think about a typical day from morning to night, and those little things that would make living more enjoyable.

Point of focus A lot of times the focus point in the room can establish the energy and feel. Consider what you want the point of focus to be in your kitchen, and you will find that it changes the way you feel when you walk in the room. Is it a great view to the pool, an amazing center island, or state of the art range?

Light, view, space These are 3 of the most important aspects for any room. Light, view, and space should when combined correctly, create an inviting experience. Consider what you want to see when you are washing your dishes or eating in your dining room. Would you want to look through a window to the view outside, or through the kitchen and into the living room? Would you like an open and airy kitchen that seamlessly transitions to other rooms, or would you like walls for some privacy? Always include as much natural light as possible.



When all of these elements are mixed together, just add family, and the kitchen comes to life.

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As the old saying goes: “No matter where I serve my guests, they like the kitchen best.”

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