

Picks of the Pros

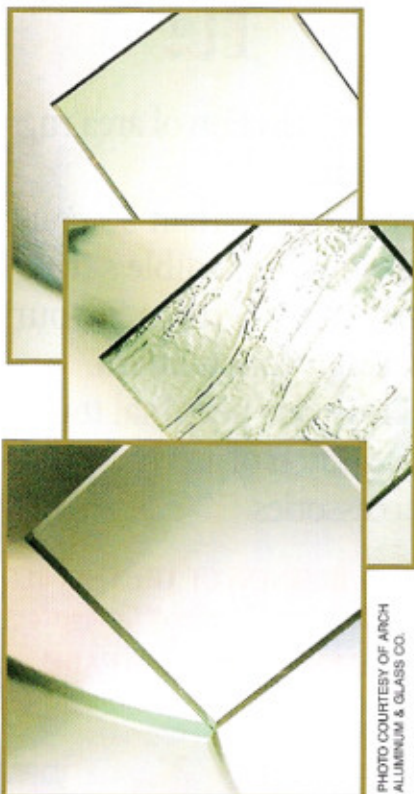
Interior designers share their latest must-haves.

They are the advance guard, the first to know what the markets have in store for the coming year, and their job is to help those of us who are too busy or design impaired to discern the best new trends in interior design. They are the members of the American Society of Interior Designers (ASID). We queried several to discover what to watch for in the year to come.



Fred Hind

Fred Hind says one item is especially hot—literally—and he's never sold so many of them: the dual convection oven by Wolf Appliances. "It's the only oven on the market with dual convection; two fans circulate the air for uniform cooking. The system prevents flavors from transferring. We went to a cooking school where they cooked garlic pork in the oven with cookies and the taste wasn't affected. Plus, the door is heavy — you can cook a turkey for hours and it's still cool. I like the hydraulic lift on it; you open the door one inch and it goes down gently by itself."



Bill Tidmore

Bill Tidmore (Tidmore-Henry & Associates) likes the walk-in showers with the new thinner textured glass that maintains the open feeling without taking up the space that glass block does. "There's a fabulous new glass called 'Storm' that's three-dimensional, with swirls you can feel. We're using that now in a very contemporary setting. Another one, called 'Rain,' has perfectly vertical drop-like images running the full length of the glass. They're thick and heavy. They look and feel richer."

Bonnie Lancaster

Bonnie Lancaster (Lancaster Humma White Studio) recently returned from New York and California, where she noticed the resurgence of '50s, retro-style antique mirror furniture. "This look, which originated with Louis XVI, is available in many pieces including lamps, armoires, coffee tables and dressers. They go well with contemporary looks but can also work with a traditional motif. Light-catching mirrors are a great way to add brilliance to a room, and some pieces are finished with gold leaf or silver accents. They are built of hardwood, then covered in mirrors, sometimes with an aged look. Artifacts, Schumacher, Oly, Diane Watts and many other leading furniture designers carry the latest pieces. My favorite is a three-drawer chest adorned with gold medallions and a silver and gold burnished finish."

