

# A FEAST FOR THE EYES

BY EMILY AXFORD



Everyone has different tastes, flavours and opinions which is why interior design styles can differ in every home. As the kitchen is usually at the heart of the home, somewhere one can commune with family and share a meal, the joinery plays a pivotal role in defining a home's aesthetic and style. Here, Emily Axford from Sydney Kitchen + Bathroom Design sits down with Nino Strangio, director of Betta Style Kitchens & Joinery, to discuss some popular interior design styles and how it can be reflected and enhanced through your kitchen joinery. It'll be sure to get your tastebuds tingling!

Betta Style Kitchens & Joinery was born in 2016 with the amalgamation of Betta Style Laminating and The Pre-Fab Group. Nino Strangio became the owner of Betta Style Laminating in 1993 which manufactured high-quality laminated products. The Pre-Fab Group was then established by Strangio in 2002 which, over the years, transformed into a supplier of fully assembled kitchens and joinery. Strangio then decided to combine the two businesses and their respective strengths to create Betta Style Kitchens & Joinery which provides a comprehensive range of products and services. Today, Betta Style Kitchens & Joinery is an award-winning company that has built an industry-leading reputation for producing the highest-quality products, supported by a strong work ethic and client-focused approach. "We look forward to a future of continuing to bring client ideas to life and producing beautiful kitchens and joinery that effectively blends functionality and style," Strangio announces.

## CRAFTING CHARACTER

From country to coastal to maximalist to minimalist – there is an interior design style out there to suit everyone and this is never more prevalent than in your kitchen joinery. "It is the cornerstone that will set the tone, functionality and overall appearance of the space," Strangio states.

Naturally, the style and aesthetic of a kitchen is largely influenced by the colouring of the joinery and the materials it is made from. Whether it's rich hardwood, sleek laminates or painted finishes, all can evoke a range of styles and moods. Furthermore, incorporating details like decorative mouldings, unique hardware and integrated lighting can elevate the visual appeal and influence a home's style, making a space that reflects the homeowner's personality and taste.

Regardless of style, when designing any kitchen, "expert planning and execution are essential to provide the



client with their dreamed kitchen. With more than 30 years of experience in the industry, Betta Style Kitchens & Joinery can definitely say that it has the knowledge, capability and proficiency to bring many dream kitchens to life," Strangio details.

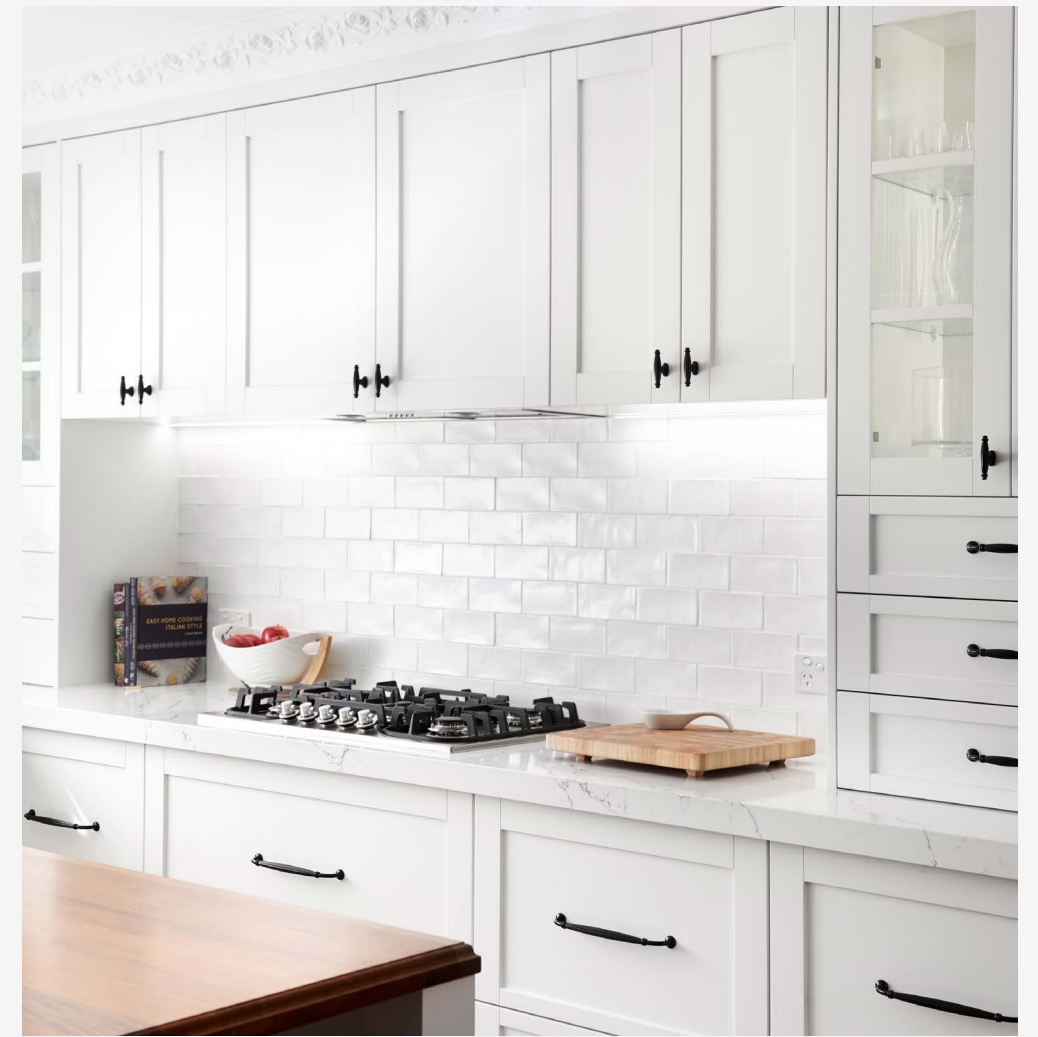
Let's take a closer look at how your kitchen joinery can reflect and enhance your chosen interior design style.

## COUNTRY CHARM

Country style homes exude warmth and charm, capturing the essence of rustic living with their homey aesthetic. In the kitchen, "colours and materials will contribute to provide a charming and inviting design, enhancing the overall aesthetics of the home," Strangio explains.

In a country kitchen you would generally find small, detailed features such as routed doors, capping moulding, traditional handles and protruding kickbases, as well as more prominent features such as porcelain farmhouse sinks and integrated built up rangehoods. Typical joinery finishes in this style kitchen include 2pac for its durability, while "wooden accents and natural stone are the most common materials used in country and farmhouse style kitchens," Strangio details. This, in turn, emits the warmth that this design style is renowned for.

It goes without saying then that lighter, neutral colours such as off-whites and beiges are predominately used in this style of kitchen. This brightens the space and mimics the hues found in the country, harmonising the outside with the inside. "A lot of kitchens now have an accent



colour generally on the island bench which can be a dark grey, blue, green or brown," Strangio notes.

## OPEN TO INFLUENCE

As Strangio expertly states, "In today's modern kitchen, there are no defining features as the options are limitless." This means that with a modern kitchen design, there are no hard and fast rules and it is open to being influenced by other styles. "In fact," Strangio continues, "we found that this type of kitchen has the widest array of design elements, materials and finishes to choose from."

Joinery finishes found in modern kitchens can include 2pac polyurethane, flat and embossed melamine, veneer or vinyl. Strangio adds that, "they could also have one tone, two tone or perhaps more," bringing differing colours for an eye-catching design. The cabinetry door profiles can be flat, routed or grooved and can incorporate any type of modern style handle – or even no handles at all for a clean look. In a modern kitchen design, benchtops are usually made of natural stone, porcelain, mineral stone or timber, but the options are endless!

## BIG, BRIGHT AND BOLD

Strangio describes a maximalist kitchen design as being able to "maximise the use of the space by adding more to the space." So, basically, the more the better! "We found that there is no right or wrong to bringing maximalism to the kitchen," Strangio explains, going on to say that this

style of design incorporates what the client loves best – books, mugs, cups, plates, teaspoons or even hanging pots and pans from the ceiling.

Much like a modern kitchen design, "the options are also limitless with an array of design elements, materials and finishes to choose from." Due to the hectic nature of the maximalist style, the colour palette is usually a vibrant one with an array of colours to choose from. "These colours will be united in one single space and, at first, it would appear a bit chaotic and eclectic, but they have been purposely designed to integrate different elements for a character-filled space," Strangio elaborates.

## TIMELESSLY CHARMING

The traditional kitchen style typically exudes warmth and nostalgia and is usually characterised by ornate details and timeless colour palettes. "In a traditional kitchen, you would generally find distinguished features used – routed doors, capping moulding, traditional handles in gold, bronze or nickel, protruding kick bases and glass door cabinets," Strangio remarks.

2pac polyurethane and natural stone are amongst the most common materials used in this style of kitchen. This is usually paired with a lighter, neutral colour palette such as whites, off-whites and beiges, but can also include bold colours like grey, blue or green. You honestly can't go wrong with a traditional kitchen as "the design and colours will contribute to provide a timeless look that the clients will enjoy for years to come."

*Images courtesy of Betta Style Kitchens & Joinery*