

kitchen & bath DESIGN NEWS[®]

The leading business, design and product resource for the kitchen & bath trade

54

2017 DIRECTORY OF SURFACING MATERIALS

DESIGN PIZZAZZ • 38

Kitchens With
'Wow' Power

ELEMENTS OF STYLE • 32

Portfolio of
Backsplash Designs



Photo: Hülker Photo

■ Designer Robyn Scott chose reflective back-painted glass, painted a creamy white, for the backsplash of this contemporary kitchen, maintaining a clean look that lets the stunning mountain views act as the focal point.

DESIGNER: ROBYN SCOTT Robyn Scott Interiors, Ltd.; Aspen, CO

The architecture of the home often guides Robyn Scott as she helps clients choose backsplash materials and designs. For more traditional homes, it might be stacked glass or tile, or in the case of a log cabin remodel she is currently designing, it is teal green Moroccan tile in an Arabesque shape.

For contemporary homes, stone slabs that match the countertops are often a go-to design choice. “There are so many beautiful countertops now,” she says. “When doing contemporary kitchens, you don’t want too many materials, so it’s nice to repeat the countertop material as the backsplash. A single slab of granite or quartz that looks like marble is often a first choice. The veining is so beautiful.”

Backsplashes in reflective materials can also offer a nice touch, she adds. “Sometimes kitchens can feel closed in,” she mentions. “Using a reflective material, such as stainless steel, glass or mirrors – or my favorite is an actual window – can open them up.”

Scott chose reflective back-painted glass for this contemporary home in Aspen that overlooks the mountains, offering a stunning view of the landscape. “Our design goal was to create a clean, contemporary look,” she says, noting the collaboration

of the home’s design with David Johnston Architects. “We didn’t want anything too decorative.”

As such, the custom glass backsplash is back-painted creamy white. “The theme of the home is to be monochromatic,” she offers. “We added a ton of windows to capture the amazing views so we didn’t want anything that would compete. All of the furniture, materials, etc. needed to be in the background. When someone walks into the kitchen, we want them to see the view.”

Scott complemented the backsplash with quartz countertops in a taupe-y beige hue that picks up the floor tones, wall color and wood ceiling. “There is a lot of tone-on-tone in this kitchen – for example, the backsplash, countertops and patinaed steel bar top and skirting,” she says. “All three are different shades of gray and beige that bring warmth into the space.”

Rounding out the design, Scott added dark walnut cabinetry with stainless steel edge bands that help define its geometric shape. A sculptural light fixture created by local artist Travis Fulton hovers above the island and adds softness. “That piece is very important to the design,” she concludes. “It brings an organic shape to the kitchen. Everything else is very linear and hard edged, but this piece adds softness and gives balance to the space.” ■