

29 Rustic Kitchen Ideas That Feel Fresh and Contemporary

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TYLER KARU

Rustic design can look great in any part of the home, and it looks particularly great in the kitchen. After all, kitchens are warm, welcoming spaces—meant for preparing meals to share and enjoy together, and that’s really what [rustic design](#) is all about.

“I love the way rustic design can disarm people,” Alexis Garrett, interior designer at [Alexis Garrett Design](#), says. “It can harken to a simpler time, help people slow down, and get fluff and stuffiness out of the way so relationships can flourish more freely.”

Garrett says that, for her, rustic design is about combining natural elements, like wood and stone, with weathered pieces that led many lives and have a lot of soul.

“I also love how rustic design often connects us with the natural world and people and ideas of the past—it helps keep memories alive, or even provokes new ones,” she says. “It can inspire us to live more simply and more closely with the world around us.”

This focus on relationships and community is a natural fit for the kitchen—a space that’s dedicated to preparing and sharing food together. And whether you’re looking to go all-in on rustic design or simply add a few [rustic design elements](#) to your otherwise modern space, there are plenty of rustic kitchens worth taking cues from—and we’ve rounded up 29 excellent examples below.

Meet the Expert

- Alexis Garrett is an interior designer at [Alexis Garrett Design](#), a San Diego-based interior design firm.
- Karen B. Wolf is the principal designer at [Karen B. Wolf Interiors](#), a New Jersey-based interior design firm.
- Nancy Charbonneau is the principal designer at [Charbonneau Interiors](#), a Houston-based interior design firm.
- Stephanie Lindsey is the principal designer at [Etch Design Group](#), an Austin-based interior design firm.

15 Play With Texture

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Rustic spaces are filled with texture. While wood is a very popular way to bring texture into your space, it’s not the only option on offer. You can stock up on metal pendant lights, copper pots, and antique hardware. Even marble countertops, metallic picture frames, and sleekly painted cabinets can make their way into the mix.

“Rustic style involves a combination of materials, including wood and metal,” Lindsey says. She recommends using weathered steel accents to balance out wood-filled spaces and using natural wooden accents to balance out crisper, cleaner rooms. “Adding steel window trim, rustic beams, natural stone counters, or antiques can make any area more rustic in style,” she says.