Kitchen cabinet trends 2027 and a buying checklist

What designers expect, what the market is doing, and what to check before you order. Full article: kaminskiyhomeremodeling.com/blog/kitchen-cabinet-trends-2027/

Trend	The evidence	How to use it
Natural wood, white oak first	White oak the wood of choice for 49% of designers; natural-finish cabinets 34%; light and medium tones 32% each (NKBA 2027)	Wood on the island, the base run or one tall wall; rift cut and a clear matte finish for the pale look
Medium stains return	Medium stains back in the top spot beside light stains and creamy off-whites for the first time in 15 years (MasterBrand 2027 trends, its own designer survey)	A warm mid-tone reads newer than gray and hides wear better than pale oak
Creamy white, green, an island of its own	Neutrals 96%, greens 83%, blues 75%; 54% expect the island in a distinct color (NKBA 2027)	Color on the island or the pantry interior; cream or wood on the long runs
Hidden appliances	85% say cabinetry is designed to hide appliances (NKBA 2027); panel-faced dishwashers gaining for 85%, refrigeration 72% (NKBA 2026)	Panel-ready refrigerator and dishwasher, an appliance garage with outlets, a microwave drawer
Doors, not open shelves	64% say open shelving is on its way out (NKBA 2027)	Uppers to the ceiling with doors; one shelf or a glass pair for display
Inside the box	Under-cabinet lighting 87%, in-cabinet 76% (NKBA 2027); pull-out shelves wanted by 74% of buyers (NAHB 2024)	Drawers in base cabinets, pull-outs by the range, a pantry wall, lights on their own switch

The market going into 2027

Measure	Figure and source
Tariff on imported cabinets and vanities	25% since October 14, 2025; scheduled to rise to 50% on January 1, 2027, except for countries with an agreement (postponed once before)
Imports of wooden kitchen furniture	$2.74 billion in 2025; Vietnam 42%, Canada 14%, Malaysia 9%; January to August 2026 about 38% below a year earlier (official U.S. statistics, calculated)
American makers' sales, 2026 through September	Down 6.0%; cabinets sold down 9.6%; custom +0.1%, semi-custom -8.1%, stock -8.7% (KCMA Trend of Business)
Lead times	Three to six weeks for one large maker's stock and semi-custom lines (October 2026); ten to fourteen weeks for custom in our projects

Before you order: five checks

Check	What to look for
Where it is built	Ask the origin of the line and whether the quote is before or after the duty
The formaldehyde label	"TSCA Title VI compliant" or "California 93120 Phase 2 Compliant", with the maker and production date, on the cabinet or its carton; NAF or ULEF is better than the standard
Durability	KCMA certification: doors and drawers cycled 25,000 times, shelves loaded at 15 pounds per square foot for a week, finishes tested against heat and kitchen stains
Reface or replace	Reface only if the boxes are sound, the layout stays and the interiors work; tall storage, hidden appliances and drawers need new cabinets
The budget line	Cabinetry is about a third of a full kitchen: roughly $35,000 of a $125,000 San Diego remodel; semi-custom to custom can swing $20,000

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