

SINKRONICITY

Give your bathroom faucet a reason to rejoice



A large *Moso Bamboo Vessel* sink from Stone Forest adds a Zen and spa-like feel to a bathroom.

WOOD/BAMBOO

Rich, rustic and full of warmth, wood sinks have natural appeal. It may seem counterintuitive to use wood with water, but today's manufacturers oil and treat the wood with a sealer or laminate to make it waterproof. Bamboo is popular because it is made from 100 percent renewable stalks. Since wood is relatively soft, take care not to nick or dent the surface, and avoid using harsh cleaners and cleaning methods.

Visit local suppliers to see the variety of sinks available.
Manufacturers often list dealers on their websites.

A BOLD SINK adds personality and glamour to the smallest room in the house. Artisans work with a variety of materials and mediums — hand-blowing glass, chiseling stone and hammering copper — to elevate sinks to an art form. Styles range from top- and under-mounted basins to vessel, pedestal, console and wall-mounted sinks.

With the temptation of so many different colors, materials and shapes, remember to consider how you will use the sink. A dramatic design may be appropriate in a guest powder room, while you may need more functionality in a master bath.

Whether round, oval, rectangular or wavy, the shape can be an important design element. Low-profile basins may look sleek but can be impractical for daily use. A standard-size bowl runs 4 to 5 inches deep, keeping water from splashing on countertops and useful for tasks that require standing water.

Vitreous porcelain may be the old standby, popular for its durability and ease of cleaning; but there are a host of other options. Take your lifestyle into account while looking at the materials that fit the style of your bathroom.



Inspired by Southeast Asian tribal rain drums, Kohler's *Kamala* vessel sink is cast in bronze and will patina over time.

METAL

Metal workers transform brass, copper and stainless steel into polished looks, while bronze casters make sinks that can moonlight as sculptural art. Whether artisan made or manufactured, textures can be hammered and rough or polished and shiny. Metal sinks stand up to wear and tear, though higher-gauge metals are thinner and more likely to dent.



The *Kasos* decorative vessel — designed by Michael S. Smith for Kallista — is sculpted from Calacatta Borghini marble.

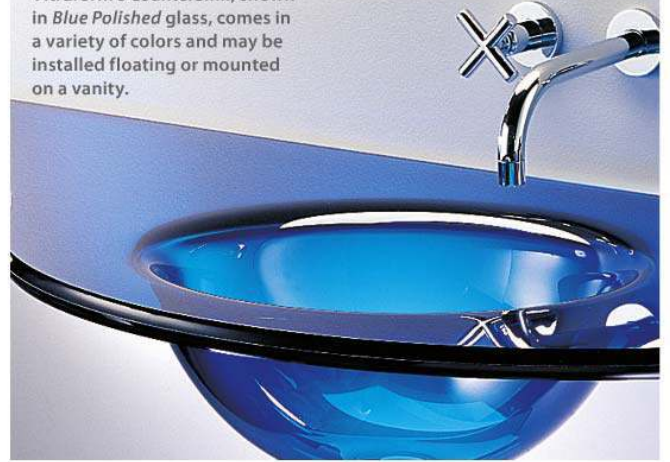
NATURAL STONE

With its natural character, fissures and veining, natural stone can be sculpted into nearly any shape, but it is most commonly seen as a vessel sink. Onyx, marble, petrified wood, limestone, travertine and granite are popular choices that can be polished to a shiny finish for a formal look, honed for a matte look or left in a natural state for an earthy feel. Stone requires sealing and is less porous when polished.

GLASS

Glass sinks offer a beautiful, translucent glow at night and can reflect sunlight to make interesting patterns. Whether made from colored, frosted or crystal clear glass, they provide a smooth surface inside that is easy to keep clean. Take care, though; glass can crack or chip more easily than other materials.

Vitraform's *CounterSink*, shown in *Blue Polished* glass, comes in a variety of colors and may be installed floating or mounted on a vanity.



Communal trough sinks from years past are popping up everywhere, offering a distinctly rustic look. Native Trails' 36-inch sink is handcrafted from NativeStone, a blend of cement and jute fiber.

CONCRETE

Simple and elemental, concrete is a robust choice. It also is adaptable. You can custom fabricate concrete into any sink shape or buy one readymade. With many different design options and color stains available, the possibilities are myriad. Made from sand, rock and cement, concrete is heavier than most other materials, so it will need sufficient support. Environmentally friendly concrete mixes provide a green alternative.



Handcrafted from a composite stone resin, this sink has curves in all the right places and is available in glossy or matte white from ADM Bathroom Design.

SOLID SURFACE

Smooth-as-silk, flexible materials allow a sink to be molded into nearly any design and essentially become one organic piece with the countertop. Without crevices that collect dirt and germs, they offer the most sanitary option on the market.