

what does “green” mean?



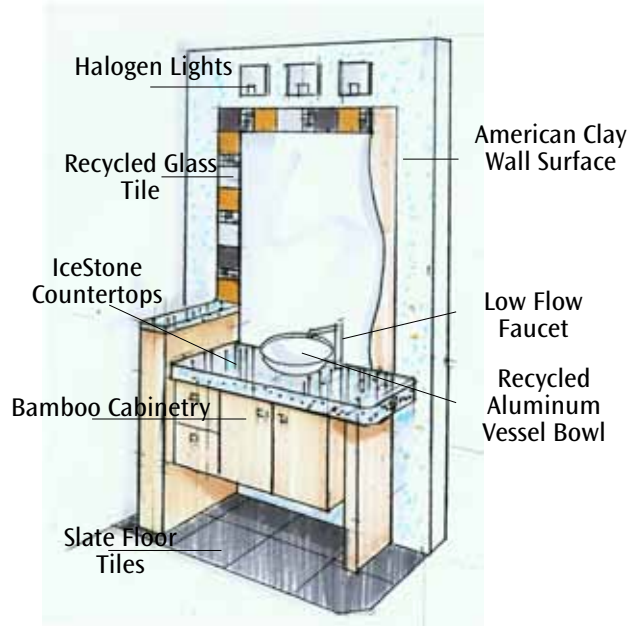
Our goal in creating eco-friendly kitchens is to make your living space better for you and for the environment. Green isn't black and white – it's not all or nothing. It's a process that can be taken in steps. Environmentally sound elements involve choices in lifestyle, design and products that minimize the impact on the environment and natural resources. Considerations include your **health** (air quality and use of non-toxic materials), your **budget** (lower utility bills) and the **planet** we all share.

In planning your kitchen, the Morris Black designers can make your commitment to ecology easy to fulfill. Recycling centers can be designed into the kitchen for separation of recyclables from trash. Compost bins can be installed under your sink. Even your effort to buy locally can be supported with specialty storage for fresh fruits and vegetables. Remember: going green is a choice. We'd like to prove that environmentalism and aesthetics can coexist.

With careful planning, together we can create spaces that combines beauty, efficiency, comfort and convenience with health and conservation.



green vanity display



Visit our Lehigh Valley showroom to see our newest “all green” bath display. You'll understand how environmental elements can be added to a design without sacrificing style or beauty.

Morris Black
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a down-to-earth guide to



green kitchens and baths



**Sustainable
Responsible
Environmentally Friendly**

from

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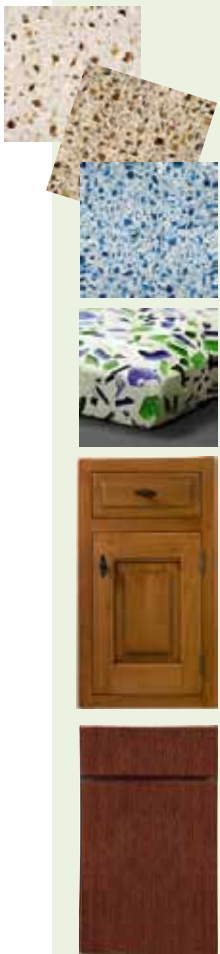
what makes a green design?



Sustainable Product Choices

Eco friendly alternatives are available in the full range of kitchen and bath products. Green products may have one or more of the health or environmental attributes listed below:

- promotes good indoor air quality
- durable and has low maintenance requirements
- incorporates recycled content or can be recycled
- salvaged from existing or demolished buildings
- made from natural or renewable resources
- obtained from local sources or manufacturers
- comes from sustainably harvested sources (wood products)
- does not contain highly toxic compounds and their production does not result in highly toxic by-products
- their use is energy-efficient or conserves water



Energy Conservation



Estimates indicate that the average kitchen uses nearly 40% of a home's energy. The biggest culprit, of course, is the refrigerator which stays on 24/7. New refrigerators consume 75% less energy than those made in the 1980s, so that is the best place to save on your energy bill. More importantly, Morris Black strongly supports the use of EnergyStar appliances that use advanced technologies and consume 20-50% less energy than standard models.

It is important to select appliances not just for their energy star ratings, but also for their appropriateness to lifestyle. Choose the right size and mix to take care of everyday needs and entertaining. For example, if you often cook or reheat small dishes, a conveniently placed toaster oven or microwave might be a good choice for you.

The proper placement of windows and skylights—relative to work and food prep areas—will maximize natural sunlight; and the use of compact fluorescent lighting will reduce energy bills.



Indoor Air Quality

Good ventilation is a key consideration for both kitchens and baths. Removal of combustion gases and water vapor improves air quality and prevents mold growth and airborne allergens. Our designers know requirements for venting fan flow ratings. We will suggest products with low VOC (volatile organic compounds) levels and which are formaldehyde-free.

Water Conservation



The average American household consumes 100,000 gallons of water each year.

If your dishwasher is more than 10 years old, you'll save on water bills by replacing it with a highly efficient dishwasher that uses less water than washing dishes by hand in the sink.

When choosing a faucet, know that today's faucets must meet minimum standards for water efficiency, using no more than 2 ½ gallons per minute. Morris Black designers can also suggest low flow showerheads and toilets that use 20 to 60% less water.

Front loading washers use 60-70% less water than conventional top-loading washers. Shallow sinks and tub bowls also make sense

Final Thoughts

If you are remodeling, plan early in the project to cut the impact of the waste materials. Consider selling or donating your old cabinets and appliances to charity, such as Good Shepherd's RePlace (we can help). Or plan to reuse them in your garage or basement. If you do not reuse your appliances, be sure to recycle them properly.



Morris Black Designs buys from cabinet manufacturers that support the KCMA Environmental Stewardship program. Morris Black also supports using Energy Star appliances.



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