

“Japandi” Kitchens Are Taking the Design World by Storm in 2025



By [Lauren Harano](#)
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Credit: [Lula Poggi](#)

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While some [trends can be hard to predict](#), experts say there's no doubt that 2025 is shaping up to be all about “Japandi” kitchens. If you haven't heard of this style before, [Courtney Cole](#), an interior designer at [TileCloud](#), explains it best: **“‘Japandi’ is a fusion between the design philosophies of Scandinavian design, which is characterized by simplicity and functionality, and Japanese design, which is all about elegance and warmth.** When brought together, it's a beautiful fusion of clean lines, natural materials, and minimalism.” The result? A kitchen that feels both serene and functional.

What makes Japandi ultra-appealing is how it creates an inviting vibe while keeping things simple and clutter-free. “Japanese and Scandinavian styles both have an aesthetic with an overall ideology that less is more, taking the design and stripping it down to its essentials,” says [Annie Kantor](#), founder and director of design at [Modern Metal](#). “In other words, Japandi aesthetic is all about form and function without distraction.”

With people looking to make their spaces feel peaceful and promote wellness, Japandi's mix of soft, neutral colors, nature-inspired materials like wood and stone, and carefully chosen decor really hits the mark. In 2025, expect kitchens that not only look stylish but also feel relaxing, thanks to this balanced style.



Credit: Photo: Steven J. Magner; Design: Heather Cleveland Design Studio

What Does “Japandi” Look Like?

“A shared element across both Scandinavian and Japanese design is nature: natural materials, colors found in nature,” Kantor says. “So, naturally — no pun intended — materials in a Japandi-inspired kitchen lean toward organic elements like high-quality wood cabinets in light natural hues, rattan, bamboo, and even metal.” This focus on nature gives the space a calm, grounded feel — something both design styles really emphasize separately.

“Looking at kitchens especially, Japandi will come through in warm-toned cabinetry (usually wood), matte look tiles (like [these](#)), and minimal amounts of decor,” Kantor notes. “Open shelving is a common design that is brought into the Japandi design aesthetic. All of these elements come together in a curated manner that is simple, but simple with intention.”

Cole agrees, noting that trending design style is all about “striking the perfect balance between warmth and minimalism.” She recommends pairing wood cabinetry with stone countertops “to create a really nice contrast that doesn’t throw off the harmony of the space.” This trick will bring in a cozy, organic texture without overwhelming the space, while sleek, minimalist details like simple lines and subtle hardware will keep the vibe calm and laid-back.



Credit: [Magali Saberian](#)

How to Incorporate the “Japandi” Trend into Your Kitchen

Aside from organic materials, there are plenty of other ways to add warmth and natural beauty to your space. The overall goal here is to create a cozy, peaceful kitchen that feels sophisticated and intentional — here are a few other expert ways you can do that.

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“Japandi” Kitchen Colors

When it comes to color palettes for Japandi kitchens, neutrals are the key to nailing the style. Think: soft whites and grays, beiges, and other warm earth tones often found in nature. “The plus side of this is that they also pair really nicely with wooden tones and decor, which have also become closely associated with the design style,” Cole says.

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If you want to add some depth and contrast, try mixing in darker shades like charcoal or muted blues — they help ground the space without being too distracting. What’s great about this color palette is how versatile it is.

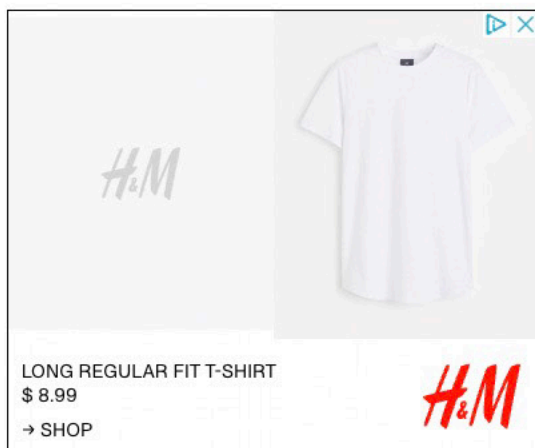
“Japandi” Cabinetry and Storage

Look for sleek, minimalist cabinets that seamlessly blend into the design. “Japandi cabinetry is all about smooth and clean lines, but it also focuses on the functionality of the room,” Cole says. “You will usually see this with flat panel doors in natural wood finishes, which have become super popular with this style. Open shelving will also be popular here, but it’s not used quite as much.” For additional storage, consider hidden compartments or soft-close drawers that’ll keep clutter hidden.

“Japandi” Kitchen Appliances and Hardware

Cole suggests looking for appliances with integrated designs or matte finishes in black, white, or stainless steel. “This, when used with hardware in brushed brass, black, or brushed nickel, will work beautifully in this style, making the room feel elegant but not too bold,” she adds.

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As for hardware, it’s all about simplicity and subtle elegance. “Naturally, I gravitate toward metal here,” says Kantor. “I see this as the perfect opportunity to bring in the black accents often associated with the Japandi aesthetic.” Popular finishes like stone, textured tiles, light wood, and brushed stainless steel all give off a natural, earthy vibe — and would be great if you want to make an easy kitchen swap.

What do you think of “Japandi” as a kitchen design trend? Let us know in the comments below!