

COLOUR ME COUNTRY

According to colour consultant Samantha Bacon, the palette that best suits a contemporary take on country kitchens is one that's simple and understated.



Simplicity and neutral tones are the keys to achieving an elegant look for a subtle country-style kitchen. Try to steer away from brightly coloured splashbacks, two-tone cabinetry or benchtops in strong hues. As the cabinetry is generally more ornate in this style of decorating, it's essential the colours remain simple.

For cabinets made from melamine, Polytec Classic White is a great choice as it's considered a warm white. The crisp designer whites that tend to have blue undertones should be avoided in this type of scheme. The Laminex Silk Finish range is good for kitchen cabinetry and the colour Parchment is a slightly creamier off-white that also works well. If you want a two-pack polyurethane finish, then Dulux Natural White is a good choice for a simple white. Make sure you specify a satin finish for this as a high-gloss finish completely destroys the understated appeal of country style.

Natural marble benchtops, with a honed finish for durability, look great for this look. Carrara and Staturio are two that contain classic white and grey tones that suit country style. Caesarstone

patterns that suit this look are Organic White, offering a marble look, or soft warm neutrals like Latte and Buttermilk; or for a more tonal contrast, Wild Rice fits the bill. Splashbacks should be kept simple as well so the overall appearance remains a classic one. Plain white brick-style tiles with a gloss finish are suitable or if the benchtop stone is a light tone then this can be continued on the splashback areas. Glass splashbacks usually look more contemporary but if you want to use this finish, stick with a neutral tone, just a little darker than the cabinetry. ■



▲ Elegant benchtop choices – from left to right, Laminex Parchment in silk-finish, Caesarstone Buttermilk, Caesarstone Organic White, Caesarstone Wild Rice, Polytec matt-finish Melamine in Classic White and Caesarstone Latte.



A benchtop made of Caesarstone Classico in Wild Rice has a blend of natural mid-tones that suits an airy white kitchen.