

Light Cabinets, Dark Countertops: How Can You Pair Them?

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If you are looking to create a contemporary kitchen during your home remodel, using contrasting colors (light cabinets with dark countertops or vice versa) is the way to go. You can also achieve a contemporary color scheme by choosing contrasting paint colors. This guide will focus on how you can effectively pair light cabinets with dark countertops to create an elegant kitchen.

Why Does Color Matter So Much in the Kitchen?

When it comes to kitchen design (and interior design in general), color is a huge deal. If you choose colors that do not work well together, you can be stuck with an unattractive kitchen for the foreseeable future.

What Materials Can You Use to Achieve a Light Cabinet/Dark Countertop Look?

If you have white cabinets and are looking for a darker countertop material to contrast, you are in luck. There are plenty of high-quality material options on the market that are available in darker colors. You will be able to find dark kitchen countertop materials such as granite, marble, quartzite, quartz, slate, soapstone and even gemstone.

What Are the Best Options for Dark Countertops that Will Pair with Light Cabinets?

The following countertops are just some of the best darker colored materials that will contrast well with your light cabinetry. The general characteristics of each material are explained.

Ubatuba Granite

Ubatuba granite countertops are one of the most popular choices amongst homeowners – and for good reason. This gorgeous dark green natural stone has magnificent gold, brown and green speckles. It is a wonderful choice to contrast white kitchen cabinets (or other light-colored cabinets). Beyond its beauty, granite is one of the most durable materials you can install in your home.

Black Galaxy Granite

Sticking with dark granite, Black Galaxy granite is another incredible countertop material to pair with your light kitchen cabinets. This elegant black granite features small copper-colored flakes that break up the pure black background of the stone. This countertop material can be just what you need to achieve perfect contrast in a white kitchen.

3100 Jet Black Caesarstone Quartz

3100 Jet Black Caesarstone quartz is a stunning consistent black quartz that will look fantastic paired with light cabinetry. Whether it is combined with white, off-white or gray cabinets, this black countertop will look terrific. In addition to its beautiful looks, quartz countertops are very durable – among many other positive qualities. This material is not only a great fit with light cabinets, but is a great idea for any kitchen remodel in general. Consider using the material for a backsplash and kitchen island as well.

Black Marquina Marble

Marble countertops look quite impressive in any home setting, but Black Marquina marble works particularly well paired with light cabinetry. The intricate white veining that runs throughout the stone adds a small touch of light to the dark black background.

Absolute Black Granite

This gorgeous black natural stone works well with light cabinet colors. You cannot go wrong choosing it to complete your contemporary kitchen remodel.

5100 Vanilla Noir Caesarstone Quartz

This consistent black quartz has beautiful white speckling. It is a gorgeous and durable countertop material that will be the perfect complement to your light countertops to create a contemporary kitchen.

Sandalus Leather Quartzite

Finding countertops to contrast your light-colored cabinetry does not necessarily mean you have to find a black countertop. Sandalus Leather quartzite is a perfect example of a beautiful darker colored countertop material that pairs well with light cabinets.

Tiger Eye Blue Gemstone

This exotic stone countertop is one of the most beautiful surfaces you can install in your home. If you are looking for a unique darker colored surface to pair with your light cabinets, you cannot go wrong choosing this countertop.

Smoke Soapstone

The dark gray tones of Smoke Soapstone will create a beautiful contrast, particularly with bright white cabinetry. One of the unique qualities of soapstone is that the material will darken on its own over time. If you want to speed up the process, you can treat the stone with mineral oil.

Pietra Cardoso Slate

Slate can be found in a range of dark tones that are pleasing to the eye. The blue-grey coloring of Pietra Cardoso slate will incredibly contrast light cabinets – especially bright white cabinets.

Summary: Best Dark Countertops for Light Cabinets

The table below lists out the best dark countertops for light cabinets based on the material's background color.

Best Dark Countertops for Light Cabinets

Black	Dark Green	Brown	Blue	Gray
Black Galaxy granite	Ubatuba granite	Sandalus Leather quartzite	Tiger Eye Blue gemstone	Smoke soapstone
3100 Jet Black Caesarstone quartz				Pietra Cardoso slate
Black Marquina marble				
Absolute Black granite				
5100 Vanilla Noir Caesarstone quartz				

Installing any of these dark countertops in your kitchen can help you contrast your light-colored cabinetry. If you are aiming to achieve a contemporary look, using any of these materials will be a great option.