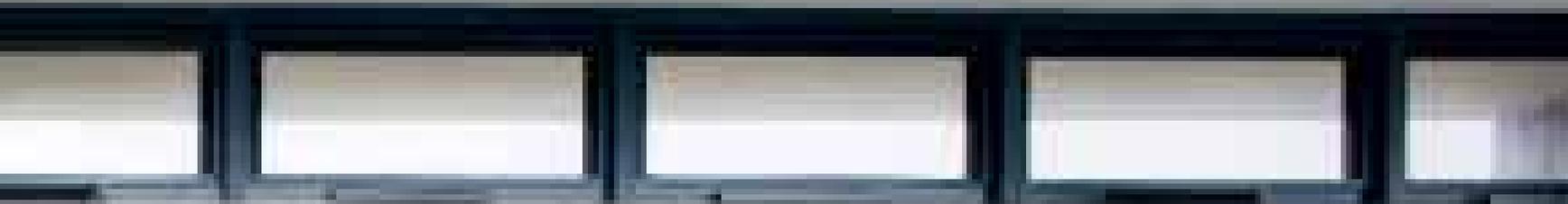


## FIXED TO WIN

Once outshone by soft furnishings, hardware and fittings are finally having their moment in the sun. Here, the experts weigh in on the new technology and designers that are changing the game in home hardware

Words Alice Griffin



Everyone loves picking out a new sofa or comparing paint swatches but when it comes to the practical side of interior design — drawers, hinges, door systems and the list goes on — eyes start to glaze over. However, the arrival of new technology has given hardware and fittings a new lease of life, providing systems that offer homeowners greater accessibility, are aesthetically striking and improve the quality of day-to-day living.

It seems the duller side of design is enjoying something of a renaissance. Here, we're shining the light on the architects and suppliers that are revolutionising hardware and fittings, one drawer at a time.



New Logica System by  
Valcucine. [rogerseller.com.au](http://rogerseller.com.au)

# KITCHEN FIT-OUT

To design a truly livable and functional home, you have to consider both the little things and the big. In short, the details count and perhaps nowhere more so than in the heart of the home: the kitchen. The right hardware and fittings are essential in transforming a kitchen from a standard cooking station to a living, multifunctional space that meets the varying needs of its 21st-century dwellers.

According to Darren Genner, it all starts with storage. As design director and co-founder of interior architecture firm Minosa Design, Darren praises the “hidden kitchen” and the modern fittings that allow him to create such a set-up. “Cabinet hardware is advancing at a rapid rate and so are the ways we use kitchens,” he says. “Kitchens are becoming more integrated into the living room and are now, for many, much more than just a place to cook; they’re a real social hub of the home.”

Darren’s advice to homeowners looking to update their kitchen hardware is to select dynamic, heavy-duty drawer systems instead of old-school cabinets. Drawer systems provide ample storage space, which means appliances can be put away and kept out of sight when they are not being used. This lends the space dual functionality as a kitchen turned workspace or living area. “We no longer have cabinet doors with just shelves under the benches

— they are all drawers. Technology is so good that they can be loaded up with 100kg of products and still open and soft close effortlessly,” explains Darren. “The dynamic of the working kitchen is becoming more and more efficient thanks to this technology shift.”

The new Logica system from Italian manufacturer Valcucine is one example of the technology that’s turning the traditional kitchen on its head. Crafted to enhance the interactions that we have when we cook, the Logica system makes its claim as the most ergonomically designed drawer system to date. Reaching 80cm in depth, the system’s equipped back features large removable drawers and wall units with lift-up doors to contain (and conceal) all the equipment needed for a modern kitchen. Everything from weighing scales, small appliances and bottle racks to power sockets, taps, hooks for utensils and even the cooker hood are chicly stowed away, creating a sense of calm in the once chaotic kitchen.

Tanya Sharpe, brand manager of Valcucine’s Australian supplier, Rogerseller, speaks of the system’s design prowess: “Valcucine is a leader in kitchen design and manufacture. Through injecting heart and careful thought into each innovation, the company presents refined sophistication while remaining at the forefront of functionality.”

Kitchen set. [brodware.com](http://brodware.com)

Image courtesy of Minosa Design.  
[minosa.com.au](http://minosa.com.au)

feature hardware & fittings



Image courtesy of Stegbar and BAM  
Constructions. [bamconstructions.com.au](http://bamconstructions.com.au)

feature hardware & fittings



## WINDOW OF OPPORTUNITY

**THIS PAGE** Images courtesy of Stegbar. [stegbar.com.au](http://stegbar.com.au)



Helping us achieve a healthier, happier and more productive lifestyle, the benefits of natural light can't be overstated. It's no surprise then that sliding and folding windows and doors are proving more popular than ever for homeowners, providing simple and stylish ways to introduce more daylight to the home and create flow between interior and exterior spaces.

Christine Evans, director of marketing for Stegbar, reveals the top things to keep in mind when selecting new windows and door fittings for your home. "Most of the hardware in windows and doors is concealed in the sashes, panels or frames," she explains. "This is the most important part as it often determines the fixture's performance and functionality." Before committing to a certain window and door supplier, Christine recommends finding out a few simple details: the level of security the fittings will provide, how smooth the windows and doors will slide, how durable the finishes will be against the elements and how easily adjustable the features are. She also suggests looking into vent-locking features, which allow occupants to leave the windows open for ventilation in the evenings without compromising on security.



Basin Set with D Lever handles. [brodware.com](http://brodware.com)



Robe hook. [brodware.com](http://brodware.com)



## STYLE FILE

When chosen correctly, hardware can deliver just as much visual impact as soft furnishings. Window and door fittings provide plenty of opportunities to make a statement. "Traditional stainless-steel hardware is a good option due to its high-quality finish, timeless appearance and ability to match most window and door finishes," says Christine. For the more daring, black accents such as door handles and window frames are a chic choice and the trend can be continued through the rest of the home.

Whether you're new to the design game or a seasoned expert, thanks to recent technology, dynamic providers and savvy architects, there's plenty to be excited about when it comes to hardware and fittings. **HD**

Celegon door systems. [bellevuearch.com.au](http://bellevuearch.com.au)



Industrica wall mixer. [brodware.com](http://brodware.com)

