



**KAREN'S HOME TRENDS:** In my previous article, I talked about four home trends that are hot right now – handless faucets, open floor plans, salon-style art and hidden storage. Now, let's talk about five more trends that you may want to try out at home!

***Fingerprint Door Locks.*** This is pretty futuristic! But, I guess the future is now, right? How about installing a fingerprint door lock? With these specialized locks, you don't need to memorize pass codes or dig through your purse for those pesky keys. Just put your finger on the pad and you're in!

***Fake Fireplaces.*** No need to chop down any wood or to worry about cleaning out the ash and embers anymore. A fake fireplace gives you that cozy, log cabin feel without the hassle of maintaining a chimney. These faux fixtures are more common as the cost goes down. You can even choose between electric or gas-powered fireplaces.

***USB Wall Outlets.*** A useful trend for sure! If you're tired of losing your charger or frown at how bulky they are, try these outlets. Outlets with USB connectivity are so practical and are becoming standards in homes. Truly an investment worth making!

***First-Floor Master Bedrooms.*** When I grew up, it was glamorous (and expected) to have the large master suite upstairs. But now, anything goes! First-floor master bedrooms are becoming more common and requested by homebuyers. Maybe as we mature, we realize being on the first-floor can be so much more forgiving to our joints.

***Quartz Countertops.*** For a long time, marble dominated as the choice for kitchen countertops. Nothing could beat it! Fast-forward to now and welcome the new choice in

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and not porous.

town: quartz. Quartz is quickly becoming the hot, new trend in kitchen countertops. It's considered one of the hardest materials in the world that's easy to clean