

























































Some appreciation along the way



## Perfect Mix of Science & Beauty

This new material is fast becoming the default option for nearly every surface application

OOKS HAVE LONG BEEN TRYING to find the perfect countertop material. At one time, wood or butcher block were favoured materials, but one problem with wood is that it is porous. A ceramic surface has those much-hated grout lines which makes it impossible to roll out large sections of dough. Even the popular granite and marble options are not perfect; they are expensive and prone to cracking. In this debate surrounding kitchen and bath design the material that is causing the most discussion is solid.

material is chemically cured and heated to 60°C or more. Cured material is then cut in sheets or shapes and sanded on one or both sides. Sometimes the material is brought to 160°C and cooled, to improve its heat resistance.

According to Rajesh Mungee (shellcraft India@gmail.com), director at ShellCraft India, a solid surface manufacturing and fabrication company, "The qualities like non porosity and zero water absorption have been welcomed by the market. Also, the appropriate like rapper of colours.

counter tops, solid surfaces can be used for kitchen shutters, moulded bowls and surface cladding for furniture. If creatively used, wonders can be

produced like lamp shades, bathroom vanities etc. For do-it-yourself home remodelers it is difficult if not impossible to fabricate solid surfaces. However, nearly all kitchen countertop materials, with the exception of wood, are difficult to fabricate without special tools and expertise.



