

**Go Specialty**

When sourcing building materials for the home, whether it's tiles or something else, go to a specialty store rather than a general homeowner's center. A specialized store will have more genuine product knowledge and stock higher quality products.

**JEOPHIL**  
International Ceramic

**FINDING THE RIGHT DESIGNER**

Word of mouth is always a safe guide, but if this is not available, try to get your usual fix on both in other options. Don't be afraid to ask a designer for a meeting to see if they are the right fit for you. After all, this is a big project, which most people do once in a lifetime and you will be sharing ideas and working on it all day with your designer. So trust us, this should be your project on the shopping list of the good friends.

**SHRINE PALLOU**, *Interior Designer*

# TIPS

## FROM THE TRADE

**USE THE SPACE**

Remember a building is only as good as the space it occupies. An experienced professional will see you make the right choice first time. Keep your benchtops free from commercial creams and cleansers, and instead use a bottle sprayer with 50/50 metholated spirits and water, together with a clean towel.

**RUSSELL BURFIELD**,  
Benchtop Replacement Services

**ON THE BENCH**

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**RUSSELL BURFIELD**,  
Benchtop Replacement Services

**STARTLE QUO**

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**GARY BROWN**,  
General Window Group

**The big question:** One of the most important questions you can ask your builder is what are the three points of difference between your company and other builders?

**DAVID BURFIELD**, *Ben Topical Contractor*

**LOOKING LONG TERM**

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**GARY BROWN**, *General Window Group*