

Decorative Wood Hoods – Are They Right for Me?

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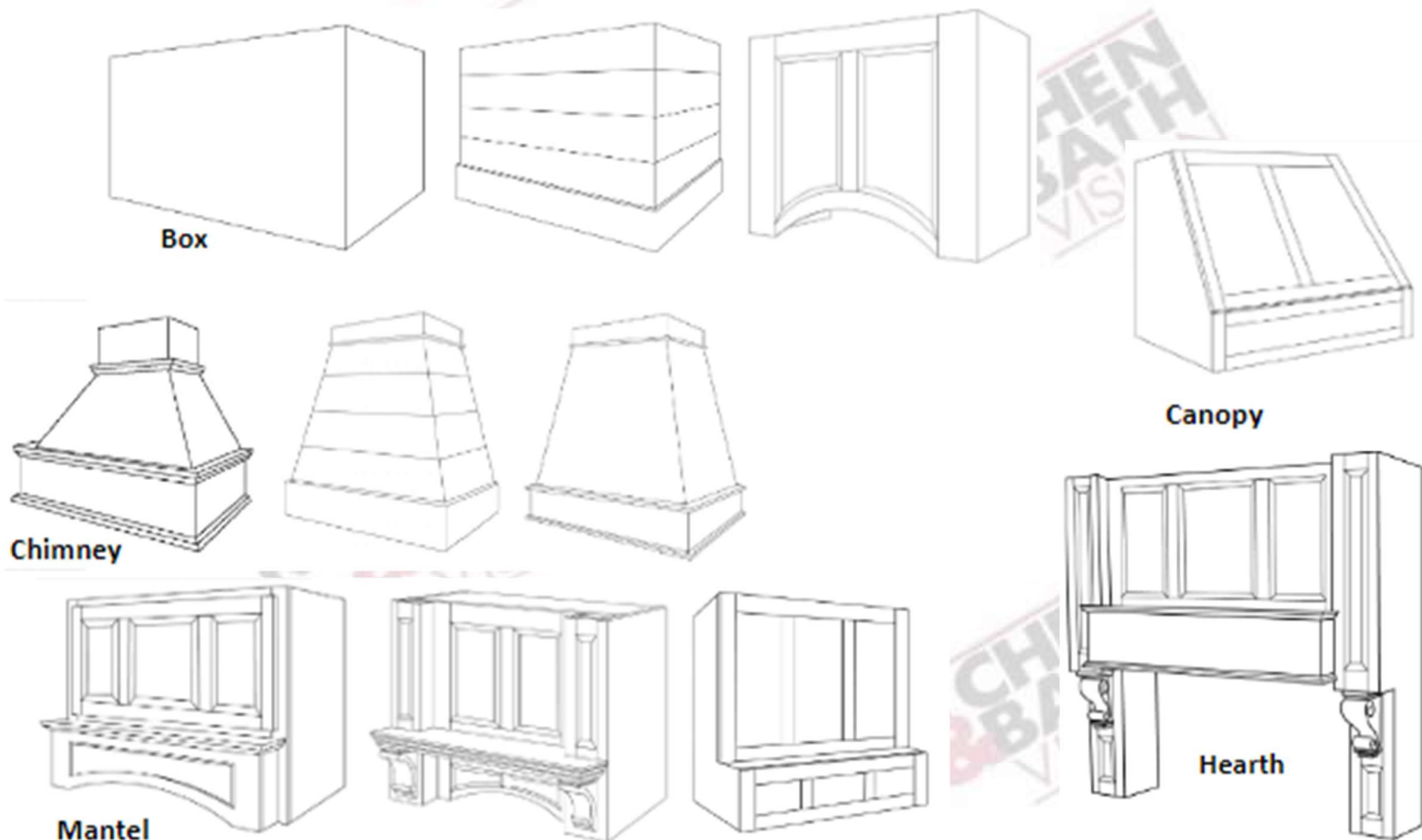
If you've looked at kitchen designs for more than five minutes, the odds are that you have seen a kitchen where the hood isn't a typical stainless steel or glass model but instead is more decorative in style, usually made from wood. Most often, these decorative wood hoods will match the cabinetry in the kitchen but sometimes a homeowner will want a contrasting color and/or material. Some wood hoods are very simple, others very detailed, but the concept is the same – the outside is wood (painted or stained) and a blower/liner is purchased to sit inside the hood and be vented outside. In kitchens with a lot of space, the hood may be oversized to make a statement, but typically they are the same width or slightly wider than the cooking surface.

Some wood hoods will have square sides – these are usually mounted flush to adjoining wall cabinets to create a seamless wall of custom cabinetry. In this scenario, the hood can be the same or a contrasting material/finish and is usually a **Box**, **Canopy** or **Mantel** style hood.

Other wood hoods have angled or arched sides to create a **Chimney** style hood. Because of the shape, and the visibility of the wall on either side of the chimney, it is popular to carry the backsplash material up the wall behind the hood which creates a spacious and heightened feel.

Finally, some (larger) decorative hoods continue down to the countertop, often with spice storage pullouts inside. These are called **Hearth** hoods and require a significant amount of space so that the tower sides are far enough away from the cooking surface to be safe.

Regardless of the style you select, a decorative wood hood can really make your kitchen look complete.



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