

# Kitchen Planning

## New and Remodeled

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# *General Order of Work to Complete a Kitchen*

Be prepared for everything to take longer and cost more than expected.

## **Planning Phase**

- identify family needs
- determine general location of the kitchen and actual kitchen space
- develop the plan including work and storage areas, plumbing, wiring, and lighting
- secure needed building permits

## **Construction Phase**

- lay foundation
- construct or change exterior walls, roof, and floor framing, install or change windows and doors

- install plumbing and wiring
- install plaster board—sub flooring
- install cabinets and appliances—cabinets may take up to six months after placing order. Exact measurements for cabinets are taken after the plaster board is installed, or measure from the stud wall and adjust for the thickness of the plaster board.
- install floor covering—some types may be installed before cabinets
- install counter tops
- install sinks
- install wall covering—some types such as paneling may be installed before the cabinets

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## *Kitchen Planning: New and Remodeled*

Today's kitchen is often part of a family-living area. The location and many other decisions depend upon family needs, lifestyle, and the physical limitations of the house.

A well-designed kitchen should be functional as well as aesthetically pleasing. From the beginning one must realize how materials and furnishings affect the overall appearance or character of the kitchen.

The character of the kitchen should relate to the rest of the house and the family life style. The relationship of the other areas of the house and the kitchen should be harmonious for a consistent "total look." To establish a theme or style analyze the needs and living habits as individuals and as a family. Hobbies or special inter-

ests may play an important part in the establishment of character. For example, if the family emphasized natural materials in the rest of the house, and they enjoyed an informal, warm, contemporary feeling, the cabinets might be natural wood without molding or ornate hardware, wood planks at 45° angle on walls and/or ceilings, warm colors, macrame hangers for plants, baskets or pottery as accessories.

Kitchens will be completed with fewer problems and less delay if you follow the general order of work listed above. Many kitchen professionals are helpful in the early planning stages, including identification of family needs.