

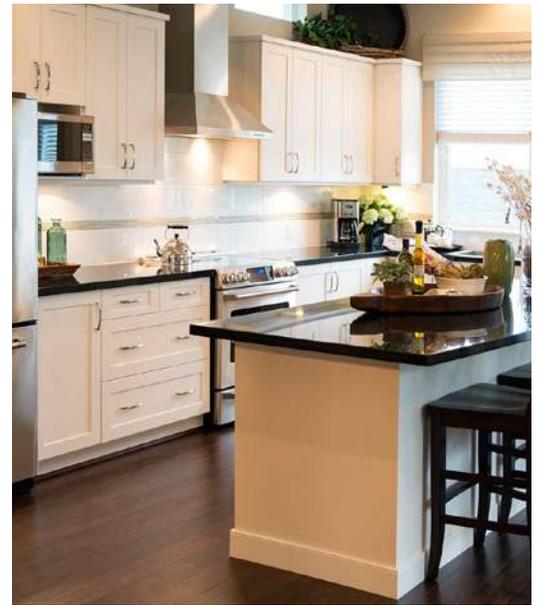


KITCHEN & BATH TRANSFORMATIONS

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KITCHEN REMODELING WORKBOOK:

A Homeowners guide to the STRESS-FREE Remodeling Project





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A Homeowners guide to the STRESS-FREE Remodeling Project

Have you been thinking about whether now is the right time to renovate your kitchen? Do you feel overwhelmed by the number of decisions you will face, the size of the project and possible inconvenience? Are you worried about becoming another nightmare kitchen renovation story?

If any of this sounds familiar, don't worry, you are not alone!

In fact, most homeowners feel the same way about kitchen renovations. With decisions about cabinet styles and colors, layout, functional, decorative and organizational hardware, countertop materials, backsplashes, flooring, appliances, sinks, faucets, electrical and plumbing, just to name a few, a simple kitchen update can transform into a full scale renovation very quickly.

The bad news is that without the proper planning from the start, your project can quickly turn into a lengthy and over-budget experience!

The good news is that you have the opportunity to turn the kitchen you have tolerated into the space you have always dreamed of. You can design your new kitchen for entertaining and sharing special occasions with your friends and family. Not to mention, you will have a space that provides the storage and functionality to fit your lifestyle. Best of all, you have already made the decision to avoid the headaches everyone always talks about. You have decided to read and follow our kitchen renovation workbook and have taken the first step in planning and executing a STRESS-FREE kitchen renovation project.

Congratulations!

In the following pages, you will find a step by step guide to plan for and complete your kitchen project. Each of the 10 easy-to-follow steps will guide you through the decision making process of each area of your project, from design and budgeting, to hiring the right contractor, to ensuring your project is completed on time and to your satisfaction.

Let's Begin!



STEP 1: DEFINING YOUR PROJECT

Your kitchen will be the centerpiece of your home and it is extremely important to consider the overall goal you are trying achieve. Think about how you will use your kitchen once the renovation is complete and any special considerations you will need to include. This is one of the most important steps to take before you begin the planning process.

**Pro
Tip:**

It is important to have a clear overall goal for your new space. Avoid simply buying random pieces without any thought of cohesion, this can create a finished space that is very different than what you want to achieve.

STEP 1: DEFINING YOUR PROJECT GOALS?

Will your project include:

- Cabinet updates
- Countertop updates
- Changing your kitchen lay-out
- New appliances

What specific purpose will your new kitchen serve?

How often will you use your kitchen?

Will your kitchen be mainly used for cooking or for entertaining?

How long do you plan to stay in your home?

Do you want a kitchen that is simple and sleek or a little more fancy?

Do you need just a simple update? Y/N

Write down any special considerations:

TIPS TO CONSIDER WHEN RENOVATING:

FOR A SIMPLE UPDATE

If you simply want to update your kitchen, consider adding a simple backsplash, painting your cabinets or changing fixtures.

TO INCREASE VALUE

If you're looking to increase the value of your home, particularly for resale, consider renovating your kitchen based on what a potential buyer may want to see. For example, new cabinets, countertops and appliances.

TO GET BETTER USE OF THE SPACE

Redesigning your kitchen can be costly, but this adds value and functionality to your home. In most cases, it's usually best to consult with a professional to ensure proper installation of new plumbing, electrical and cabinets.



STEP 2: RESEARCH YOUR OPTIONS AND CREATE A BUDGET

Having a set budget is key to a STRESS-FREE renovation. When considering your budget, keep these general guidelines in mind:

- Basic remodels can average \$5,000 - \$15,000
- Moderate remodels average \$15,000-\$35,000
- Full remodels can be in excess of \$35,000 +

Write down your budget for your kitchen renovation:

If you're not planning on hiring a professional, it's important to research and price out all of the items you will need for your renovation. You can do this by using your Internet search engine or going into a home improvement store.



Having a set budget is key to a STRESS-FREE renovation. When considering your budget, keep these general guidelines in mind:

Pro Tip: [Most home renovation projects go over budget by 10%-20%.]

STEP 3: HIRE A PROFESSIONAL

Though hiring a professional kitchen designer is an additional expense, this decision can help you design the kitchen of your dreams. Specifically on difficult projects, that include plumbing and electrical it is important to have a professional who is knowledgeable of current codes, material requirements and costs. You may also choose to hire a remodeling professional for only certain parts of your renovation as well.

Choosing the right professional is important. Do your research and find a pro that has great reviews, a professional website and an extensive portfolio.

Use this space to keep record of professionals you contact, and quotes they provide:

Company Name	Contact Information	Quoted Price	Notes
1. _____	_____	_____	_____
2. _____	_____	_____	_____
3. _____	_____	_____	_____
4. _____	_____	_____	_____
5. _____	_____	_____	_____
6. _____	_____	_____	_____
7. _____	_____	_____	_____
8. _____	_____	_____	_____
9. _____	_____	_____	_____
10. _____	_____	_____	_____

Pro Tip:

It is a great idea to get bids/quotes from at least 3 professionals prior to selecting the right fit for you. Remember the least expensive option is not always the best option!



STEP 4: DESIGN YOUR SPACE

Let's take a look at details you need to consider for your kitchen project. Make any necessary notes:

**Pro
Tip:**

It's a great idea to save photos of kitchen accents, designs or styles you hope to achieve in your own space. Save these in a clearly marked folder so you can easily access them.



Can you expand your space by knocking out an adjacent wall?

Do you want an island or peninsula to sit and/or eat at?

Do you want an open concept space that seamlessly transitions to the living area?

Would you like to install a window or skylight?

How do you use your sink? Do you want a single or split bowl?

Where will you need to place electrical outlets?

Is there anything else you need to consider?

STEP 5: DESIGN AND MEASURE



Now that you have determined your needs from the space, it's time to start designing! Your hired professional will provide you with a detailed sketch of your space. The key to preparing your kitchen for a renovation is to ensure you have exact measurements.

Pro Tip:

Now is the time to finalize your material list. If you have identified additional material needs, go back to Step 2 of your workbook and revise your material and cost list.

KITCHEN SKETCH AND MEASUREMENTS

Notes:

STEP 6: PERSONALIZE YOUR KITCHEN



**Pro
Tip:**

Refer back to your saved pictures and URL links for inspiration and guidance to help make your selections

At this stage in the planning, it's time to choose your finishes, materials and colors for your new space. Write in the specific color, type or finish you have selected for each area of your space below:

Color Scheme/Paint: _____

Flooring: _____

Cabinets: _____

Countertops: _____

Backsplash: _____

Island/Penisula: _____

Sink: _____

Faucet: _____

Handles/Knobs/Pulls: _____

Appliances: _____

Storage: _____

Additional Selections: _____

STEP 10: DECORATE YOUR SPACE

Now your kitchen renovation project is complete, it's time to decorate! Browse in-store or online find the to perfect accessories for your new space.

Use the following checklist to ensure you have everything you need for your kitchen:

- Dish Towels
- Cooking Utensil holders
- Sink mat
- Soap holders
- Window treatments
- Small Appliances (microwave or toaster oven)
- Countertop Appliances (blender, toaster, etc)
- Knife block/magnet
- Cleaning supplies storage/organizer
- Dish drainer
- Shower caddy/organizer
- Decorative accents
- Artwork
- Decorations
- And anything else you like!

