

## Tips and Tricks for Creating the Kitchen of Your Dreams

A 200-square-foot kitchen remodel costs on average \$37,000, according to recent industry surveys. That's the average cost; of course, actual expense depends on the scope of the project.

Renovations that involve re-configuring walls, electrical, plumbing and ventilation; adding new space and/or removing existing walls will have higher price tags than replacing what currently exists in the same place. Regardless of the scope of the project, there are a few tips and tricks to employ to create the kitchen of your dreams.



The devil truly is in the details. Key to a beautiful kitchen is to spend the necessary time up front planning, communicating and dreaming. That's why working with a professional designer and showroom is so important. Seasoned professionals know the right questions to ask to help assure your desires, needs and dreams are realized within your available budget. If you are meeting with a designer, make sure they ask about your vision, your daily routine, how often you prepare meals and entertain and who will use your kitchen. We want to know what inspires you and how you imagine using your new space. The goal is to paint a picture of what can be and that typically exceeds the expectations of everyone. It's critical to work the plan, paying attention to the little details that make all the difference and truly understanding how you will envision your new space before work begins.

As you imagine the kitchen of your dreams, don't forget to consider lighting. Your lighting plan should combine natural lighting from outdoors with task lighting to help with meal preparation and ambient lighting to create your desired look and feel. Task your kitchen designer with developing a lighting plan that caters to your specific needs for cooking, entertaining and maximizing the time you and your family spend in the kitchen.

Another consideration, especially in smaller kitchens, is to maximize the utility of the space. A well-designed kitchen is an organized kitchen. We understand the critical importance of storage and space utilization. That's why in smaller spaces we often suggest open shelving in corners and close to the ceiling instead of cabinetry. Open shelving is not only more functional, it can be more aesthetically pleasing. Your designer may also be able to incorporate additional storage space into an island or pantry and places you may have not even considered!

The kitchen is the epicenter of the home. It's the place where families gather for quality time together regardless of whether it is over a cup of coffee in the morning or preparing meals in the evening. Most parties end up in the kitchen with hosts and their guests congregating around an island or countertops. There are a number of variables that influence your ability to create a space of your dreams. If you would like guidance on the most effective ways to plan a renovation and to help develop a realistic budget, please give our showroom a call at 302-645-8500 or visit us in Lewes.