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Plan Your Project
Courtesy of Kraftmaid.com
www.kraftmaid.com/scrapbook

Getting Started

Now it's time to get out a pencil and start putting your ideas in writing. In this project planning section, you'll find worksheets for many of the areas you need to consider on your journey to find the perfect kitchen design at the right price. Let's get busy.

Terms to Know

___ Ceiling Joist/Roof Truss	The parallel framing members used to hold the finished ceiling, the flooring for a second floor, or the structure's roof.
___ Drawer Front	The exterior decorative facing that normally matches the cabinet door.
___ Face Frame	The frame around the front of the cabinet where the doors attach.
___ Facia	The front faces of the soffit.
___ Floor Joist	The parallel framing members used to support the floor.
___ Floor	A surface usually made up of three components: the subfloor, the underlayment and the finished floor.
___ Header	A beam placed across the top of an opening to support and distribute weight.
___ Level	A perfectly horizontal surface. Also, a tool used to determine if a surface is horizontal.
___ Load-Bearing Wall	A wall which supports part of the structural weight of a building.
___ Plumb	A perfectly perpendicular surface, or straight up and down.
___ Shims	Wood wedges used as spacers to square, plumb or level a surface.



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___ Soffit	The finished area between the top of the cabinets and the ceiling.
___ Square	When right angles are a true 90°. Also, an L-shaped tool used to measure squareness.
___ Stud	Upright members used to support interior and exterior wall surfaces. Normally a 2x4 or 2x6 length of lumber, spaced 16" (on center) apart in most homes.
___ Toekick	Clearance space for feet at the bottom of base cabinets to allow people to stand closer to the cabinet.

Avoiding Common Problems

Here are a few tips to avoiding some common problems on the way to a happy kitchen remodel.

Jumping in too soon, and then changing your mind.

Thorough planning and attention to detail are essential to a successful outcome. Of course, you can always change your mind midway - but expect it to affect the timetable, the budget and your contractor's temperament.

Deep, dark (and scary) corners.

Avoid wasting valuable space by including one of KraftMaid's clever corner storage solutions, such as a traditional lazy susan or a base blind pullout pantry. They're all designed to increase usable storage space and make corners a lot more accessible and a lot less scary.

Here today, hated tomorrow.

While you can more easily update wall coverings, accessories and hardware to reflect the latest, cutting-edge color trends, consider choosing cabinetry, appliances and countertops that you know you can live with for a good long time. Go door-to-door looking for trouble. Think about how each door and drawer will open. Be sure they do not collide when opened and that appliance doors being opened will not restrict access to other areas of the kitchen.

Sinking into old habits.

If the view out the kitchen window is less than appealing (or even if it is) consider moving the sink to a center island or overlooking an adjoining area to be closer and more connected to family activities.



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The dark ages.

Instead of relying on just one overhead fixture for light, check out today's choices to lighten and brighten up your kitchen. Consider under-cabinet lighting to illuminate the sink or cooking area. Go with recessed or track lighting to brighten up dark corners or to spotlight decorative areas. For added impact, place strips of lights above cabinets or in the toe kick area. Feeling enlightened yet?