

Kitchen Planning Checklist

“By failing to prepare, you are preparing to fail” – Benjamin Franklin.

Kitchen renovations are exciting, and with the result having such a tremendous impact on the overall functionality and aesthetics of your home, it's understandable that you may want to get stuck into the dirty work as soon as possible. However, with the endless choices in designs, finishes, appliances, layouts, not to mention the work required by plumbers, electricians, stone masons and more, it's important to be meticulous in the planning stages to ensure it's done right.

Use this checklist to help methodically map out the various aspects your kitchen renovation and avoid renovators remorse!

Budget & Timing

If we liken the planning of a kitchen renovation to the building of a house, your budget and deadline are the foundations - they set the framework for everything else. If your foundations aren't secure then everything else could come crashing down, so it's important to be clear and realistic from the beginning about your expectations. Unsure on your budget? Check out our [kitchen budget](#) tool to give you some advice on how to plan your renovation budget.

1. What is your intended budget for your kitchen renovation, excluding electrical, plumbing & other necessary building works?

- Under \$15,000
- \$15,000 - \$19,999
- \$20,000 - \$24,999
- \$25,000 - \$29,999
- \$30,000 +

2. What is your intended budget for the electrical, plumbing & other necessary building works?

- Under \$2,500
- \$2,500 - \$4,999
- \$5,000 - \$7,499
- \$7,500 - \$9,999
- \$10,000+

3. What is your anticipated practical completion date?

- Less than 6 weeks
- 6 – 8 weeks
- 8 – 12 weeks
- 12+ weeks

Layout & Functionality

Now that the foundation is set, it's time to plan the framework. Determining the layout & key functions of your kitchen are vital to ensuring your renovation will be a worthwhile investment that will stand the test of time. To get the framework correct, it's important to not only think about how your dream kitchen will look and function, but how your existing kitchen is currently used, as well as it's positive and negative features.

First, we'll look at your existing kitchen. This will help us learn a bit about your lifestyle and possible functionality requirements of your new kitchen.

1. What shape is your current kitchen?

- Galley
- Island
- L-Shape
- U-Shape
- G-Shape
- Single line

2. What shape is your current kitchen?

- Galley
- Island
- L-Shape
- U-Shape
- G-Shape
- Single line

3. How many chefs usually work in the kitchen at one time?

- There is always 2 or more people working in the kitchen
- Usually only 1 person, but occasionally 2
- There is only 1 chef working in the kitchen at a time
- Our household rarely cooks

4. What best describes your cooking style?

- Training to be the next Marco Pierre-White
- Frequently cooks casual, family meals. Cooking for a crowd only occurs on special occasions.
- I'm on first name basis with the local pizza place

5. Which of the following best describes how your kitchen is used:

- It's entertainer's HQ – we frequently have guests over for a meal.
- It's a family-friendly zone, with everything from arts and crafts, to board games, to science experiments happening at the kitchen bench.
- The kitchen is used to store, prepare, and cook food. Nothing more, nothing less.
- If I had somewhere else to store the beer/wine, I wouldn't go into the kitchen at all.

6. What features do you like about your current kitchen? (Select all that apply)

- Functional layout
- Plenty of storage
- Ample counter space
- Large room size
- Sufficient power outlets
- Good lighting
- Good area for entertaining
- Modern appliances

7. What features do you dislike about your current kitchen? (Select all that apply)

- Outdated colours
- Old appliances
- Lack of counter space
- Insufficient storage space
- Awkward layout
- Disconnected from the rest of the home – hard to entertain
- Size of room too small for the number of people needing to use it
- Poor lighting
- Insufficient power supply – either awkward placement or not enough
- Poor lighting

Now, tell us a bit about your intended plan for your kitchen renovations and what your dream kitchen would look like.

1. Are you planning to keep the existing footprint of your kitchen, as in will the new cabinets sit in the same spot as the existing cabinets? (NB – This doesn't mean that everything will be laid out the same but it's important to note that most of the time, if you change the footprint you will need to factor in changes to your flooring).

- Yes
- No

2. Are you hoping to move any of the existing service locations, such as electrical outlets, plumbing or gas pipes?

Yes

No

3. Will your renovation require more extensive building works, such as removal of walls or the addition of windows?

Yes

No

4. What is your desired goal for your kitchen renovation:

Create a family friendly space, where parents can prepare meals whilst children complete homework etc.

Have an area suitable for entertaining guest that allow the hosts to continue socialising whilst prepare foods

Create an area for a master-chef to prepare restaurant quality meals on a regular basis

Have a modern, updated kitchen with all the latest technology and appliances

If it's neat, modern and has adequate storage space then it's a winner.

5. What are your kitchen "must-have's"?

New appliances

Provision for dishwasher

Butler's pantry/scullery

Stone benchtops

More counter space

More storage

Family friendly zone

Internal cabinet accessories, such as lazy-susans, pull-out shelving etc.)

Modern styling

"Entertainer" friendly

Appropriate lighting

Appropriate access to power outlets

Provision for a meals area such as breakfast bar, or built in dining table

New flooring

6. What would you like to include in your kitchen, but can live without if the budget won't stretch?

- New appliances
- Provision for dishwasher
- Butler's pantry/scullery
- Stone benchtops
- More counter space
- More storage
- Family friendly zone
- Internal cabinet accessories, such as lazy-susans, pull-out shelving etc.)
- Modern styling
- "Entertainer" friendly
- Appropriate lighting
- Appropriate access to power outlets
- Provision for a meals area such as breakfast bar, or built in dining table
- New flooring

7. Are you replacing, or adding, any of the following appliances:

- Sink/Tap
- Oven – under-bench or wall
- Oven - freestanding
- Cooktop - Gas
- Cooktop - Electric
- Oven - Induction
- Dishwasher
- Fridge/Freezer

The Finishing Touches

You've established a solid foundation, you've developed the framework, so it's time for the finishing touches. The framework ensures your kitchen is going to be functional, but the materials and finishes you select will make it beautiful. There are infinite options available to homeowners and selecting the right materials can be overwhelming, but our design specialists can assist you with making the right choice for your lifestyle and budget.

1. How would you best describe the décor and style of the rest of your home?

- Hamptons/Coastal
- Modern/Contemporary
- Rustic
- Traditional
- Scandinavian
- Glamour
- Mediterranean
- Industrial/Urban

2. Please indicate your preferred material for the cabinetry.

- Laminate doors, matt finish
- Laminate doors, gloss finish
- Laminate doors, textured finish
- Vinyl wrapped doors, matt finish
- Vinyl wrapped doors, gloss finish
- Vinyl wrapped doors, textured finish

3. Please indicate your preferred material for the benchtops

- Engineered stone, 20mm or 40mm
- Natural stone, 20mm or 40mm
- Corian™, 20mm or 38mm
- Laminate, post-formed

4. Please indicate your preferred material for the splashbacks

- Toughened glass
- Bella (4mm porcelain in 3m x 1.5m sheets)
- Standard tiles

Associated Trades & Building Work

Congratulations! You've made significant progress in the planning of your new kitchen. Our kitchen design specialists will use this information to work with you and help bring your dream to life. Did you know that we can also assist in the organising, and project management of any necessary trades?

1. What building works may be required that you would like us to provide a quote for?

- Demolition – removal of existing kitchen
- Demolition – removal of internal or external walls, doors, windows*
- Waste Removal
- Electrical – disconnection & reconnection of services, additional power outlets or lighting
- Plumbing – disconnection & reconnection of services, additional services
- Brickwork
- Plastering
- Painting
- Ceiling Fixing
- Tiling
- Flooring
- Other
- For now, please provide a quote for the new kitchen cabinetry only