



# ***Kitchen Planning Scrapbook***

## INTRODUCTION

So you have decided it is time to renovate an area in your house. Not enough space, not enough storage or just needs an update, whatever the reason we are here to help you.

Today we will be going over all the steps you will need to follow to make sure that your dream renovation becomes a reality. We will start with the discovery [questionnaire](#), then dollars and sense, cabinetry basics, finding your style, style basics, colors, laying your design out, size it up, finding a pro, what is quality and last is all the terms you need to know. After this series you will know that you have selected quality products and products that fit your style that you can enjoy for a lifetime.

SO LET'S GET STARTED.....

Just like anything in life that is successful, you need a plan and today your plan starts with the discovery [questionnaire](#). Ask yourself some questions like “What do I like about my kitchen? What don't I like? Why?” These types of questions will help you narrow down the project and pinpoint an outcome. This will also help you find your true wishes so you can easily communicate them to us when you are ready to order. To assist you with some of these questions, we've compiled a list of simple but important questions about your project. You can bring this [questionnaire](#) with you when you come to visit us for our friendly, professional advice on your project.



## DOLLARS AND SENSE

We spoke about the [questionnaire](#) and simple questions to get you started. Our next step is discussing dollars and sense. We can assist you to make decisions according to any price point.

Once you begin shopping around, you will be surprised at the many options that will fit any budget. We know that in today's world consumers are budget wise and informed and we are sensitive to this and offer products at many various price points.

Nationally, the idea for a budget is 15% of your house value. The National Kitchen and Bath Association estimates the typical kitchen budget breakdown of that 15%:

- Cabinets - 36%
- Counters - 14%
- Appliances - 12%
- Installation - 11%
- Interior designer - 6%
- Hardware/ fixtures - 6%
- Flooring - 6%
- Lighting - 4%
- Other - 5%

Here are some factors that will affect your cabinetry budget:

- Number of cabinets: One 48" wide cabinet is less than two 24" wide cabinets, but sometimes the extra cost is worth the extra storage convenience.
- Door style: Traditionally, solid wood, raised panel doors cost more than those with veneered, flat center panels.
- Construction: Construction varies from furniture board on the less expensive end to plywood on the higher end. However, there are even many different types of these woods.
- Finish: Generally, glazes and paints come with a premium charge and therefore cost more than stains.
- Storage features: Obviously, added features will increase the price, but they also increase the efficiency of your kitchen. You must decide what is most important with your designer.
- Decorative accessories: Similar to storage, more means more money. However, a few of these accessories will complete the look of your kitchen and give it that finishing touch.

As always, when considering ways to save money, do not sacrifice quality for a less expensive route. The worst thing you can say after the completion of a project is "I wish we would have..."

## WOOD AND STYLES

We have talked about the [questionnaire](#) and the budget, now it is time to go over the basics. You need to get some knowledge of what you are buying. This knowledge will be most helpful when you visit one of our showrooms that are located around Atlanta.

Let us begin with the wood species. There are four main wood species and those are Maple, Red Oak, Hickory and Cherry. Each wood species has distinctive characteristics that will affect the overall look of your cabinets and your kitchen or bath. You want to pick a wood species that fits your unique style.



Maple is the biggest seller in our area. It is used in traditional and contemporary looks and is great for paint and glazes. Maple has straight grain with some unique characteristics like bird's eye, fiddle back, mineral streaks and curly grain patterns. Maple does show less grain than the other species mentioned.

Red Oak is used in traditional and country feel kitchens and baths. Oaks are open poured and produce dramatic grain patterns, dark mineral streaks and very small pin knots. Oak will have a bold grain and subtle to rich color ranges provide character that makes it great with stains.

Hickory is used mainly in country looks. It has a heavy grain pattern that gives a rustic feel. Hickory has distinctive contrasting colors from light to dark and strong grain characteristics.

## WOOD AND STYLES

Hickory is a hard, heavy, strong and stiff producing a durable cabinet. Hickory is for the wood loving homeowners.

Cherry is used mainly in traditional looks, but can also be used for an urban contemporary look on flat panel door styles. Cherry has rich red highlights that gives the wood a distinctive appearance. This species will darken over time with light. Over time what begins as a light finish will darken significantly over a period of time.

Medium Density Fiberboard or MDF is a name you will hear when shopping for cabinetry. Many people have a bad impression of MDF because of the way it was made in the past. MDF is an engineered wood product made by breaking down hardwood and softwood residuals into wood fibers and combining it with wax, a resin glue binder which is often water resistant. Then the high temperature and pressure forms it into panels. MDF will be denser than plywood.



## WOOD AND STYLES

Now that you understand the wood species let's talk about the door profiles and overlays. Starting with door profiles you can choose a raised center panel mostly used with a furniture and traditional look or a flat center panel which is liked with the contemporary, unique styles. When it comes to the overlay style you can choose a 1/2" overlay style that is a traditional method of construction. This overlay means the door faces and drawer faces are a 1/2" larger than the opening in the cabinet on all 4 sides. This method provides ample room at the top and the bottom rails so that moulding can be applied directly to the cabinet face frame. It is not as common but some companies also offer a 3/4" overlay and a 7/8" overlay. One of the most popular styles right now is the full overlay styles give an appearance of frameless cabinetry on a face frame cabinet. It is called full overlay because the door covers the entire cabinet face frame with only a 3/16" face frame reveal on base cabinets and 7/16" reveal on wall cabinets. This overlay style must have supports of wood block stacked on top of the cabinets to apply moulding. However, some cabinet suppliers will offer a full overlay crown moulding to eliminate the blocks.

Another style that has been gaining popularity is the full access style or frameless. Frameless also known as Euro means there is no face frame and the door hinges attach directly to the interior sides of the cabinet box. The doors will cover the entire cavity and box. Because they do not require a face frame, frameless cabinets are full access, allowing the maximum use of space. The cabinet and drawers are slightly larger than those constructed with face frames. We have many different options of the frameless in our showrooms. The final overlay style we will be studying here is inset. Inset is an elegant style that gives a furniture look to your cabinetry. This will be the most expensive due to the fact that all reveals have to be equal around the door that sits inside the face frame. Your cabinet box openings are the same as the other styles, just the doors and drawer face sizes are smaller.

We have many videos on our website that goes over these materials in more depth.



## WHAT COLOR DO I CHOOSE?

Just as important as the style you select is the color you choose. Both work hand in hand to complete your decor. Color is an integral part of any statement you want to make. If you would like to have cheerful and friendly disposition, try using colors in the yellow family. If you want your area to have a fresh clean feeling, choose lighter tones in white or blue families. We offer finishes in a broad range of colors that will work with any color palette or scheme you desire. Ask these questions to help narrow the search:

- What is your favorite color?
- Is there a key feature that will exist in your new area that has a color you love? Dishes? Heirloom tablecloth? Favorite rug?
- What colors provide the mood you want in your new room? Entertaining? Restful? Playful or Relaxing?
- Look around your house now. What colors predominantly have been used in your existing decor?

Remember the lighting you have and use will affect the color you select. If you use natural lighting colors will change throughout the day. If incandescent lights are your main source then warm colors like red, yellow and oranges will be highlighted. While, florescent lights will emphasize colder colors like the blue family.

Take your time and choose the color that feels best for you. You can play with the palette since your colors will be coming from the cabinets, walls, countertop and backsplash.



## HOW TO MEASURE

The most important part of this whole process is the measuring your space. When measuring your space you will need a tape measure, pencil and grid paper.

Step 1 - Begin at the left of any corner in the room and measure to the right corner, noting the total measurement in inches.

Step 2 - Return to the left corner and measure to the outer edge of moulding of a door/window opening.

Step 3 - Measure the doors and windows from the outer edge of moulding to outer edge of moulding. Notate which way doors swing open.

Step 4 - Continue measuring all doors and windows this same way along the wall to the right corner.

Step 5 - Double-check your measurements by adding up all the measurements from Step 2 to Step 4. These should total the overall wall measurement for Step 1. If they do not equal, you must remeasure before proceeding.

Step 6 - Return to the left corner and measure to the center of any water lines, water drains, gas lines, electrical outlets or electrical switches. You will need to pull appliances away from the wall if in the way.

Step 7 - Note the measurements from the center of each outlet/switch to the floor. Continue measuring all of the items listed on Step 6 until you reach the right corner.

Step 8 - Double check that these measurements total the overall measurement in Step 1. Again, if they do not equal, you must remeasure before proceeding.

Step 9 - Note the overall height of each door, including moulding.



## HOW TO MEASURE

- Step 10 - Note the measurements from the bottom of the windowsill to the floor below each window.
- Step 11 - Note the measurement from the bottom of the windowsill to the top of the moulding of each window.
- Step 12 - Note the measurement from the top of each window to the ceiling. Step 13 - Measure the overall floor to ceiling height, accounting for soffits and beams.
- Step 14 - Double check that the measurements in Steps 10 through 12 equal Step 13. If they do not, remeasure.
- Step 15 - Repeat Steps 1 through 14 for each wall of the room.
- Step 16 - Measure all existing appliances that will be reused in your new kitchen. If new appliances will be used, it is best to get the manufacturer's specifications prior to designing your new kitchen.
- Step 17 - As an added measure of caution, it is recommended that you measure the inside width of all entry doors and door ways to check that existing cabinets and appliances can be removed, but especially that all new cabinets, appliances and counter tops can be brought in without onsite modifications.

You are now ready to draw your floor plan on the grid paper provided. (A scale ruler is helpful.) Before you begin, understand that you are converting your measurements in inches down to a scale of  $\frac{1}{2}$ ". In other words, each 12" (or 1 foot) section of your actual measurements will equal  $\frac{1}{2}$ " on your ruler. Furthermore, each small square on your grid paper equals 3" of your actual measurements. To transfer the measurements that you have obtained from each wall, use a pencil and follow the steps below.

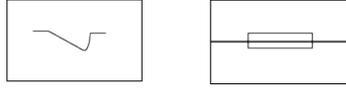
- Step 1 - Draw a line equal to the total measurement of each wall that was measured in  $\frac{1}{2}$ " scale.



## HOW TO MEASURE

Step 2 - Notate the total measurement in “dimension lines” on the outside of the lines drawn in Step 1.

Step 3 - Draw where the doors and windows are located on each wall using these symbols:



Step 4 - Notate the measurements of each window and door in “dimension lines” between the wall lines and the “dimension lines” for the total measurement.

Step 5 - Locate and draw the gas lines, water lines, electrical outlets and switches located on each wall using these symbols:



The main points to remember are following:

- Make sure you have the ceiling heights.
- When measuring windows and doors measure outside trim to outside trim.
- Make sure you have all your appliance dimensions



## PICTURES AND STYLES

You are getting closer to your dream kitchen or bath becoming a reality. You just learned the basics of cabinetry now let's look at how we can find your style. There are many factors that go into finding your style, but remember if you are selling your house you can call us and get local information and pick what is selling best in your area. Trends come and go...some stay and become traditions. You want to look at trends that will be around in 10, 15 and 20 years. Yes we offer cabinets that will last that long. Always research the pros and cons of every product you choose.



Look around you. The space you are dreaming about might be something you remember from a book or a magazine. You may have seen it on a web page. When you meet with us, pictures are worth a thousand words so collect as many as you can. We also have many catalogs and brochures that we can send you via PDF files over email.



## HIRE A PRO

Congratulations you made it this far. At this point, your project might feel a little overwhelming. It's time to call a professional. Give us a call and we will set you up with the right contractor. We have at our hands 100's of designers, licensed contractors, flooring companies, countertop companies and many more industry professionals.

Qualified professionals can bring all your dreams together while providing the experience needed to avoid unforeseen problems. When you are doing this project you will be 100% responsible for mistakes, hiring a professional puts that responsibility on them. You have been collecting a lot of ideas and inspirations and a professional can put all of those together if hurdles present themselves. Fine tuning your design your design while sticking to your budget can be easier with professional help. They might even recommend something that you had never even thought of.

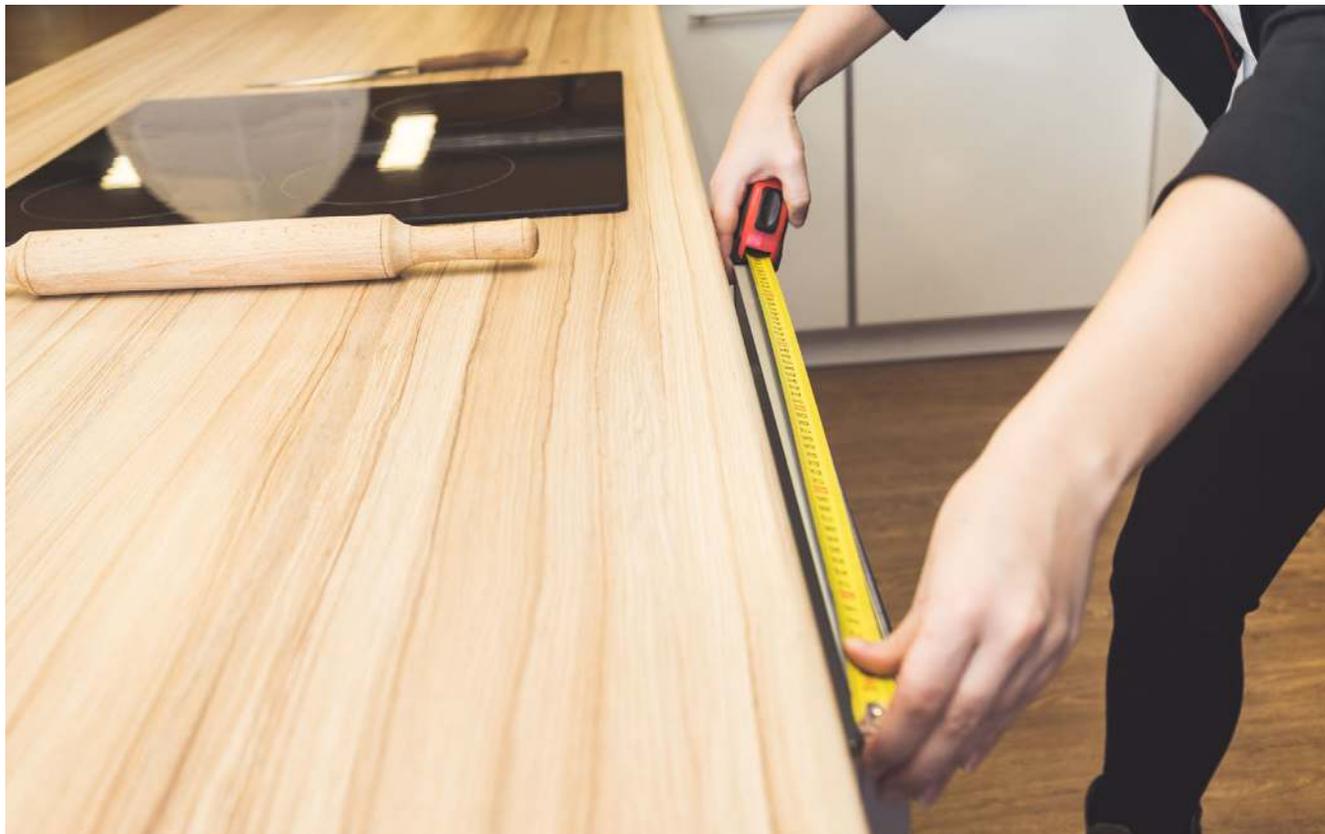
Another good reason to have a professional working for you depending on the scope of your work you might need a permit. City and county codes change daily and monthly and the professionals have to stay up-to-date on all of these.

So if you are at the point where you feel you might need a professional call us and we will guide you through the process.



## DESIGN AND MEASURE

Laying out your area can be something you do yourself or hire a professional to help. This is a crucial stage as measurements are involved and the responsibility lies on the person who measures. We will be more than happy to help you with the measurements and then put your design in a 3D picture for you. So let's go over what is involved in the layout.



The Work Triangle is where each kitchen should have a relationship between the three primary work stations: refrigerator, sink and cooktop. Ideally, you should design your kitchen with one work triangle for one cook and a secondary triangle for two. Each leg of the triangle should measure a minimum of four feet with the sum of all legs not exceeding 26 feet total. Whether you need our assistance or design on your own, keep in mind that traffic patterns which run through the work triangle take away from its relationship to its other work stations.

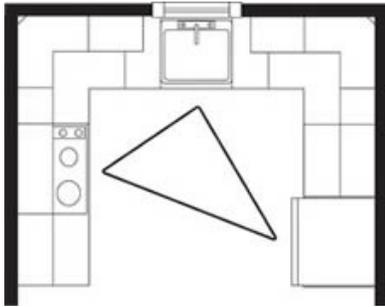
Here are some design tips for you to use:

- Place the sink cabinets and appliances as close to the original layout as possible.
- Make sure doors open properly, appliances are unobstructed, and traffic flows easily through your kitchen.
- All your walkways need to be a minimum of 36" width cleared.
- No entry, appliance or cabinet door should interfere with another.

We have a design layout video that can be very helpful at this stage.

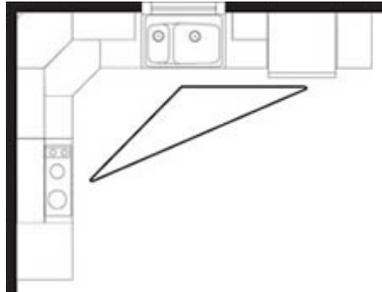
## Primary Work Centers

When designing a kitchen, the most important aspect to keep in mind is the function of the tasks to be performed within this space. Below are some examples of basic kitchen arrangements.



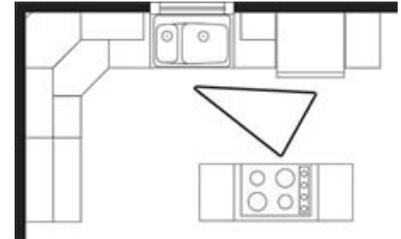
### U-Shape Kitchen

The most efficient kitchen arrangement is the U-Shaped Kitchen. Work centers are conveniently located and unnecessary traffic is eliminated.



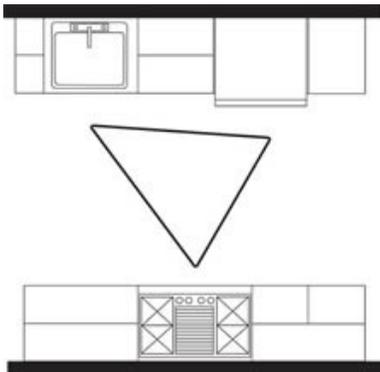
### L-Shape Kitchen

The L-Shaped Kitchen keeps traffic lanes out of the way and has convenient work centers.



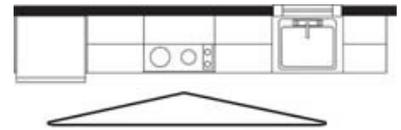
### Island Kitchen

An Island Kitchen can be as efficient as the U-Shaped Kitchen, but can allow unwelcome traffic between work centers.



### Parallel Kitchen

In a Parallel Kitchen, especially if doors are located at each end, work centers can be overrun with unwelcome traffic, but the Parallel Kitchen is still more convenient than a One-Wall Kitchen.



### One-Wall Kitchen

One-Wall Kitchens are the most economical. They use plumbing located on one wall and take up very little space; however, counter space is limited. They are extremely suitable for smaller living arrangements such as apartments and condominiums.

What kitchen arrangement above best matches that of your kitchen? \_\_\_\_\_

## CONCLUSION



Jim Barre and Spencer Ripley have a combined 70 years of experience in the construction business. Jim and Spencer are ready to assist you toward success. The two of them produce more than 33 seminars (not including all the virtual ones) annually training in product knowledge, marketing and sales and project design. All these helpful sessions are ready for implementation for immediate results. Along with the training sessions. Spencer and Jim have a You Tube channel with the most up-to-date tips and tricks for everyday business.



If you liked the ideas in this ebook, make sure you check out our website for all the “Thirsty on Thursday” videos to gain the confidence in your sales.

Here is the link to the videos: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=N5Kt8-EXons&t=19s>

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