

A photograph of a modern kitchen interior. The kitchen features white shaker-style cabinets, a light blue subway tile backsplash, and a marble countertop. A stainless steel sink with a chrome faucet is visible on the left. A wooden island with a thick, light-colored wood countertop is in the foreground on the right. A stainless steel oven and microwave are built into the cabinetry. A bowl of fruit sits on the island. The floor is made of dark wood planks.

KITCHEN & BATH REMODELING
**A GETTING STARTED
GUIDE**

REMODELING YOUR KITCHEN & BATH

A STEP BY STEP GUIDE



Your kitchen and bathroom are two of the most used areas of your home. Your kitchen is not just a place to make food, it's where you spend time with your family at the end of the day and where you entertain your friends. It's also a place where you might spend more time than your office, if you work from home. With all of these uses, it's important to have a kitchen that meets all of your needs and that you love spending time in. One of the best ways to achieve this is through a remodel.

Do you have a tired kitchen or bathroom that you're itching to remodel? It's the most exciting time in a homeowner's life – when they finally decide it's time for a kitchen or bathroom remodel! Of course, with any home improvement project comes excitement but also some anxiety. How do you start? What are the steps involved? And how do you make sure it all goes smoothly, on time, and on a budget? This guide will help walk you through everything from determining your budget to choosing your products and materials. With careful planning and execution, your kitchen or bathroom remodel can be a stress-free experience that results in the beautiful new space you always wanted!

DETERMINE YOUR BUDGET

The first thing you should do when planning your kitchen & bath remodeling is set a budget. The budget will be your most limiting factor in the process and help you determine what you can and cannot afford. Your budget will be the guiding factor for most of your decisions, so make sure you know how much money you can spend. Start by setting a budget for the whole project and then break that down into different categories. Make sure to consider all costs for the project including labor, materials, equipment, tools, and any add-ons. It is best to sit down with a pen and paper or go online to search for a budgeting tool, and take a few hours to map out your budget. It's a lot easier to change your budget on paper than to try to make changes to a budget already in place.

And when establishing a budget, don't forget to include cost estimates for items that might not be considered as part of the remodel but are nonetheless necessary. For example, if you're planning to replace the kitchen sink, you'll also need to take into account the cost of buying new faucets and new garbage disposal.

Consider hidden costs

While it may be tempting to go all out, it's important to remember that there are many hidden costs associated with a remodel – from permits and contractor fees to new appliances and fixtures. It's important to have a realistic number in mind so you can stay within your budget without sacrificing quality or features.



FIND A TRUSTWORTHY CONTRACTOR

Of all the things you need to do to get ready for a kitchen or bath remodeling project, finding a trustworthy contractor is by far the most important. It can be easy to get overwhelmed by the range of contractors out there and the options they offer. What's the best way to find the right one? Here are a few tips to help you choose the right contractor for your remodeling project.

When deciding who to hire for your home improvement project, there are a number of factors you should consider. **Quality, reliability, and credibility** are all important parts of choosing the right contractor for your project. But you should also consider the emotional and financial aspects as well. Are you comfortable working with this company? Will you feel confident and secure with this company? Will you be able to trust them to do a good job? Asking yourself these questions will help you decide which company to hire.

At Penn Kitchen & Bath, we're proud to serve our customers and help them complete a variety of different home improvement projects. Remodeling your home is a big decision, and we understand that. That's why we make it a point to work hard, work



efficiently and work to make sure you get the best possible results. Whether you're looking to remodel your kitchen or bathroom, we can help you design the perfect space for your home. And we can always give you some great recommendations for other projects you might want to consider.

THE PENN PROCESS

We are a group of experienced designers and craftsmen dedicated to revealing your home's full potential. We aim to exceed your expectations by providing creative design solutions that enable you to realize the highest value while maintaining current budget limitations. Using a perfect blend of our extensive experience alongside fresh ideas and materials we guarantee a transformative experience for you and everyone who visits your home. We pride ourselves on being able to work with you to get your project done while maintaining responsibility and a level of transparency that is unmatched in our industry. We follow a comprehensive design-build process to ensure that your remodel runs seamlessly.



Understand

The discovery consultation gives us the opportunity to learn more about your space and provides us with a better understanding of what you have in mind for it. We will walk through the #PennProcess we use to help create remodeling ideas that are unique to you, in accord with your needs, goals, and preferences. Any questions or concerns you might have about moving forward will be addressed at this stage; it's important for everyone to feel comfortable so we can prepare an effective plan for your space.



Design

We create custom plans tailored to your wants, needs, and home's potential. In our Design-Build model, we can provide an accurate expectation of cost upfront, which means you have a much better understanding before we get started.



Complete

We handle all the aspects of your project's execution, from start to finish. We do this by sticking mostly to our own infrastructure and employing an active approach during the process. This helps us maintain high levels of transparency when it comes down to communicating with you about project elements like phases and tasks.

PLAN YOUR KITCHEN OR BATHROOM LAYOUT

Remodeling a kitchen or bathroom can be exciting and fun, but it can also be overwhelming. There are many decisions to be made, such as what to do with your existing appliances, cabinets, and fixtures. If you're remodeling a kitchen, you have to decide on the layout. Do you want an island? Do you want a cabinet above the sink? Do you want to add additional cabinets? Remodeling a bathroom can be even more difficult, as you have to consider what fixtures will work best and how to design the space so that it is functional and practical, while you are also considering aesthetics. In other words, you have to think about what you want, what you need, and find a way to balance and accommodate these within your budget. You also need to know how much space you have, and what can fit in. Sizing your kitchen and bathroom is a big step in the planning and design process. Make sure you know how much space you have, and how much you need for appliances, cabinets, and countertops. Planning for the type of sink and faucet you want can also help you determine how much space you need. Estimating the size of your kitchen and bathroom is a two-part process.

The first thing you will want to do is to assess your current space and its existing design.

This will help you to make a list of everything you would like to include in your new design. For example, you will want to know if you want under-cabinet lighting or a vent for the dishwasher.

The second thing to do is to measure using a contractor's measuring guide.

These guides outline the exact measurements needed for each type of cabinet and countertop. They also include a measurement guide for appliances as well as an estimate of the space needed for a standard sink and faucet.



COLLECT YOUR IDEAS

Even if you are just making small changes, you should be able to list them on a piece of paper. Get a pencil and paper and start writing down anything that comes to mind. What do you want to change? Is it an old, broken-down sink? Is it the color of the cabinets? Is it the flooring? Are the appliances outdated? Do you want to change the layout? Do you want to add a skylight? How about changing the layout of the entire room? These are just some of the many things that you can write down when thinking about your kitchen and bathroom remodeling.

Write down your thoughts on how your kitchen can be more functional, how you want it to feel, and how you want it to look. Not only should you make a list of everything that you want to include in your kitchen, but you should also make a note of everything that you want to remove. Remember, your kitchen is not defined by a specific style, but rather, your own personal style.



Choose your products/materials

With so many different products and materials available, it can be hard to decide on exactly what you want. This is why it's important to take your time when choosing the materials you want to use. There are a lot of different factors to consider. The most important thing to remember is that the materials you choose should work with your budget. There's no sense in choosing an expensive quartz countertop if you can barely afford an under-mount sink. It is important to take a look at your budget and decide what you can afford. You can also decide on materials that you'd really like to have but will have to put off for a later date.

It may be tempting to choose the easiest and least expensive material, but that can also mean the least durable and most inconvenient option. It's very important to think about what you want from your remodel, and to plan for your needs in the future.

One of the most important things you should focus on is the quality of the materials you are using. When you are choosing products, try and choose the best quality you can afford. This may mean that you have to buy a less popular product or one that is more expensive, but in the long run, it will be worth it. Choosing quality materials will not only enhance the look of your project but also help ensure that your project lasts for many years.

Furthermore, when it comes to cost, the biggest factor in the cost of your kitchen or bathroom remodeling project is the products you choose. The materials you choose for your kitchen or bathroom remodeling project can affect the cost in a variety of ways. The most obvious is the actual cost of the materials. The second way your materials will affect the cost is the amount of labor required to install the materials. The more complex the material, the more labor will be needed.

You may have a specific idea in your mind, but it's important to keep an open mind. Be willing to consider new ideas and design concepts. The contractor you choose for your project will be able to help you evaluate your plans and offer helpful suggestions.



EVALUATE YOUR NEEDS VS WANTS

Bath and kitchen remodeling is a great way to give your home a new look, create more space and increase the value of your home. However, if you are not careful, you can spend thousands of dollars on features you don't really need. It's important to take the time to evaluate your needs and determine what your wants are. While it's important to take into account the aesthetic appeal of your bathroom or kitchen, functionality is key. You'll want a kitchen that can accommodate your family and a bathroom that can handle multiple users.

Balance design & functionality

Homeowners have many things to consider when it comes to remodeling and redesigning their homes. One of the most important is the design vs. functionality tradeoff. You see, when it comes to remodeling, homeowners have a lot to be excited about. They can redo their kitchens, give their bathrooms a facelift, install smart home features, and a whole lot more. However, sometimes, homeowners think that it's important to give their kitchen or bathroom an entertainment center-like makeover. But what they don't realize is that adding a lot of unnecessary features to their kitchen or bathroom can actually end up taking away from the functionality. The more features you add to your kitchen or bathroom, the more cluttered and difficult it becomes to actually use the kitchen or bathroom. That's why it's important to focus on achieving a design vs. functionality balance.





AIM FOR QUALITY

Quality doesn't mean high prices. Quality means using the highest quality materials and paying attention to details. The last thing you want is to have your new bathroom look great for a few months and then start to fall apart. If you want your new bathroom or kitchen to last years, then you need to choose products and materials that are built to last. A quality remodel will improve the value of your home, while saving you money on repairs and replacements in the future. You should also keep in mind that just because something is cheaper, doesn't always mean it is better.

Also, when it comes to contractors, when you are thinking about how much money you want to spend on your kitchen or bathroom remodeling project, you may feel that you need to find the cheapest contractor you can. While this may seem like the best approach, this is not always



the wisest choice. Many people are under the assumption that if they are able to find the cheapest contractor, they will be able to save the most money. However, what they don't realize is that oftentimes the cheapest contractors are not the best choice for quality. Just because a contractor is cheap doesn't mean that they are good. There are many factors that cause some contractors to be cheap, and these are not always the best factors. For instance, you may find a contractor that is cheap because they don't use quality materials or they don't have their own crew, they just sub out the work to another company. This is not always a bad thing, but it is something to consider when hiring a contractor. If you don't want to end up spending more money later by having to have a contractor fix mistakes or problems, it's a good idea to go with a contractor that can come up with a quality end product.

EXPLORE FINANCING OPTIONS

Financing a kitchen or bathroom remodeling project can be overwhelming. There are so many variables to consider, and the process moves much faster than any other remodeling project you might undertake. Before you know it, you're making decisions about cabinetry, appliances, and fixtures that you may never be able to change.

As good an investment a remodeling is, it is not cheap. Even if you've been saving up for a remodel, you'll likely need a loan to pay for the bulk of the project. Here are the most common options for financing your remodeling project:

Home equity loan: This type of loan is backed by the equity in your home. You borrow against the value of your home, and the loan has to be paid back over time. Home equity loans are a good option for major remodeling projects.

Home equity lines of credit (HELOC): A line of credit works similarly to a credit card. You can borrow against the line and pay it back over time. Home equity lines of credit are a great option for smaller remodeling projects, including appliances and cabinetry.

Home improvement loan: Some lending institutions, like banks and credit unions, will offer loans for home improvements. You'll want to shop around, but it's a good option for certain projects.





FINAL CONSIDERATIONS BEFORE RENOVATION

Remodeling a kitchen or bathroom is a big task that requires a lot of planning if you don't want to end up with a disaster of a kitchen or bathroom. It is a huge undertaking, and getting professional help is the best way to get it done quickly and without a lot of hassle. A professional kitchen and bathroom remodeling contractor will know the ins and outs of planning a kitchen and bathroom remodel because they do it all the time.

In the end, a well-designed and well-built kitchen will add to the value of your home. A good contractor is diligent about the details, keeps you informed about the status of the project, and meets your timeline. If you're planning to do the work yourself, make sure you've got the skills, the time, and the money. If you're not a skilled craftsman, get help from someone who is. Hiring a professional is often a good idea because they have the tools and experience to get the job done right.

We hope that this guide was helpful in getting you started with your kitchen and bath remodeling projects. If you are currently considering a kitchen or bath remodel, we would love to help you take your project from the planning stages all the way through the installation.



At Penn Kitchen & Bath, we take pride in developing relationships with all of our clients, and we want you to be happy with your home remodeling project. To this end, we offer a free consultation call to help you decide which of our remodeling services is right for you. Contact us today to schedule your consultation call, so we can get started helping you create your dream kitchen or bathroom.

SCHEDULE FREE CONSULTATION

