



## What to Expect From Us in a Remodel/Design Project



Please Read and Fill Out any  
Necessary Documents

*Thank You for Being Prepared!*

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# A Typical Timeline For Remodeling Projects



## 1 PRE-PLANNING

- Make the decision to remodel
- Collect information about contractors

## 2 THE FIRST MEETING WITH CONTRACTOR

- Walk-through of the house or project
- Brainstorm all options
- Decide on project size and budget

## 3 DESIGN AND AGREEMENT (2-3 weeks later)

- Presentation of preliminary drawings and project specifications
- Review and discuss options

## 4 DESIGN DEVELOPMENT (2-4 weeks later)

- Review completed drawings and project notes
- Clarify any misunderstandings about the scope or intent of the project
- Sign the contract
- Make the first down payment

## 5 PRE-CONSTRUCTION

- Give final product approval

## 6 FAMILY PRE-CONSTRUCTION PREPARATION

- Review safety rules and tips
- Remove household items from the construction area and surrounding rooms

## 7 THE PROJECT

- Demolition
- Framing
- Rough-in of mechanicals (plumbing, electrical, heat...)
- Drywall
- Paint
- Flooring
- Cabinetry
- Fixtures and appliances installed
- Finishing touches

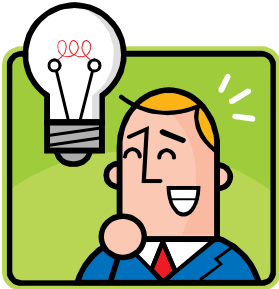
## 8 THE FINAL DAYS

- Final inspection
- Final approval given
- Final payment

## 9 AFTER THE DUST SETTLES

*\* MOVE IN AND ENJOY\**

# Prior To A Kitchen Remodel... TIPS:



Prior to enjoying the pleasures of your new remodel, there is the remodeling construction. In order to make it as easy as possible, we invite you to take advantage of the great tips we've put together for you.

In the weeks before the work begins, keep a list of all those restaurants you've been meaning to try. When the microwave gets old, your list will come in handy for a quick escape!

Before the cabinets arrive - decide on a safe enclosed area for the cabinets and appliances to be delivered to. Usually the garage is a good location.

Pack up the kitchen well before the remodel. While it's a great time to "spring clean" your shelves, don't forget to label the storage boxes well. This will make the unpacking process a lot easier! Items that are fragile should be marked accordingly and stored in an area away from the construction.

Plan a location outside of the area where the remodeling is being done to act as your temporary kitchen.

Decide in advance where you'd like the installers to store their tools.

Dust...there's just no way to avoid it! If there is a fish tank or electrical equipment in close proximity to the work - remember to keep them well covered!

## Don't forget:

- Don't forget to temporarily relocate the fridge!
- You may be able to temporarily move everything you need...except the kitchen sink!  
Consider where your "water source" will be in relation to your temporary kitchen.
- Microwave (and a freezer stocked with microwavable meals!)
- In a fond farewell to you old kitchen, spend some time in it, cooking. Make family favorites and throw them in the freezer. We promise you...you'll thank yourself later!
- Coffee Maker (don't forget to put the filters and coffee close at hand too!)
- Utility utensils, such as: can opener, bottle openers, sharp knives, and microwavable dishes
- Toaster
- Keep the basics handy: butter, salt & pepper, favorite spices
- Dining area/table

# How to Find a Contractor You Can Love



If home is where the heart is, then the kitchen is the room where the pulse of the home beats strongest. Social hub, homework center, impromptu office, decision-making nerve center - the kitchen fills many roles beyond just a place for food preparation.

That may be why a tired, outdated kitchen can be a heart-breaker for the homeowner and a deal-breaker for prospective buyers. And it probably explains why kitchens are the most frequently remodeled rooms in American homes.

The kitchen is not just where the heart is, it's also where smart homeowners invest their money.

With kitchen renovations averaging \$25,000 for small jobs and \$60,000 or more for major projects, it doesn't pay to go cheap when hiring a contractor. Sure, you can save money by trying to do it yourself or by hiring well-meaning friends and relatives. But the risks, not to mention the duration of the project, increase exponentially when the work is not being done by qualified professionals.

Hiring a professional, certified kitchen contractor and designer can save you money in the long run by ensuring the job is done right the first time.

There are four steps for finding a kitchen contractor you can love and trust with the heart of your home.

1. Seek - Word of mouth is a great way to find a contractor.
2. Meet - Once you've identified a few top candidates, meet with each. These people will virtually live with you while the remodel is under way. It's important that you not only trust them professionally but like them personally. During the interview be clear about your vision, goals, and budget.
3. Check - Talk to references and visit projects they've completed.
4. Choose - With written bids in hand, it's time to make a choice. Don't rush to accept the lowest bid. Tempting as it may be, it may not be the right one for you. Don't allow any work to start without a written contract signed by you and the contractor. The contract should include the bid amount, scope of the project, timeline, how changes will be handled and a payment schedule. Keep a punch list of items that need to be finished or redone and don't make the final payment to the contractor until the work is finished to your satisfaction.

## About Me



Growing up in the cabinet business I have done everything from sweeping the factory floors to installing the final product to being a head of cabinetry design and sales. I truly understand every aspect of what goes into designing a kitchen, bath, library, media center, and/or closet. To me, remodeling homes is more than just updating electrical and plumbing, it is a three dimensional work of art. I find no greater satisfaction than taking a home that has been neglected or doesn't function for a family and turning it into a practical and efficient space with all of the modern day bells and whistles that works for you.

Completing course requirements to become an Accredited Staging Professional along with being a Realtor for over 5 years allows me to know what actions should be taken towards a home to not only make it flow and look better but also to return top dollar. I believe a good design doesn't have to cost a fortune and everybody deserves to have a home they are proud of and will love coming home to. **You don't just live in your home you live with your home.**

Contact me to experience my life-long passion for design and fresh ideas!

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# Resume



## Accomplishments:

- Head of design and sales for Yoder Kitchen Corporation (2000-2005)
- Designed kitchen featured in *Better Homes and Garden* magazine
- Earned Indiana Real Estate Sales Person License (2005)
- Earned e-Pro Real Estate Technology Designation (2006)
- Earned Certified Staging Professional Designation (2007)
- Earned Indiana Broker's License in Real Estate (2008)
- Started up my own companies, Nathan Alan Realty Inc. and Nathan Alan Design Inc. (2008)
- Selected from hundreds of applicants to participate in MIBOR'S real estate academy of leaders (2008-2009 year)
- Selected as member of MIBOR'S Grievance Committee
- Voted as member at large on Northside MIBOR division

## Goals:

**Business:** -Provide my clients with the best possible solution to their needs  
-To run my business more efficiently and productively every year

**Personal:** -Be healthy, physically and mentally  
-Travel as much as I can

## Affiliations:

- National Association of REALTORS
- Metropolitan Indy Board of REALTORS
- North Side MIBOR active member
- Member Indy Chamber of Commerce's Green Business
- Member US Green Building Council
- Member Indiana Green Building Council

## Interests:

- Renovating Homes
- Fly fishing and fly tying
- Time spent with my family
- Frisbee golf
- Power kiting
- Airbrushing
- Kitchen and Bath Design
- Snowboarding
- Cooking
- Pets
- Traveling

## Comments From Past Clients



“Your work ethic is to be admired. You were prompt and courteous. Even with all your life had in store for you, you managed to make me feel like my rinky dinky kitchen was as important to you as it is to me and my family. In today's business world you don't come across quality in commitment, design, and product as we got in you. Paul and I both understand how important and hard it is to do business by word of mouth, we both have done it.”



“After house hunting for a few months in early 07, we saw a project Nate (did, was part of, etc) and decided to see how he could transform our ranch home into our dream home. Nate had some fantastic ideas that were both cost-sensible and very well designed. We lived in our home for the 5 months of major construction, and are extremely pleased with the end result! Nate was always accessible, always on top of the job, and most importantly was an excellent communicator every step of the job, that's something other contractors lacked.



We entertain frequently in our "new" home, and we always get compliments on it. My wife loves her new "shoe closet" and I love the new wet bar. From the custom walk-in shower, to the Amish built cabinets, to the mudroom/laundry room, we are very satisfied with the investment we made, and have no hesitations in referring friends to Nate!”



“Nate truly is a step apart from the other options in kitchen/bath design that we looked at. The quality of craftsmanship of our hand-made cabinets is AMAZING, and blows away the other options we were given at big box stores and by other designers. We were truly impressed by Nate's attention to detail: from the hand drawn custom designs for our project, to the meticulous planning of every space to make sure it was designed to be as user-friendly as possible. Nate thought of things that we would never have imagined that make all the difference in our project! We are SO happy with our amazing gourmet kitchen and bar and owe a lot to Nate for an amazing design and top quality work!”

# Kitchen Planning Questionnaire



## General Information:

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City & Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Home Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Mobile Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

## Primary Cook:

Age\_\_\_ Height\_\_\_ Male or Female

Right-handed or Left-handed

## Secondary Cook:

Age\_\_\_ Height\_\_\_ Male or Female

Right-handed or Left-handed

## Other Family Members:

Age\_\_\_ Male or Female

Age\_\_\_ Male or Female

Age\_\_\_ Male or Female

Age\_\_\_ Male or Female

Age\_\_\_ Male or Female

Age\_\_\_ Male or Female

1. How long do you plan on living in the home you are remodeling/building?

1 - 5 years    6 - 10 years    11 - 20 years    20 + years

2. Where will your family primarily eat after you remodel/build?

Kitchen Table    Island    Dining Room    Other: \_\_\_\_\_

3. Will you require a kitchen table?    YES    NO

4. What other activities will take place in your new kitchen?

Laundry    Homework    Watching TV

Paying Bills    Computer work    Other: \_\_\_\_\_

5. What is your entertainment style?

Formal    Semi-Formal    Informal

6. After you remodel/build will you entertain frequently?

YES    NO    If yes, how often? \_\_\_\_/year

7. Do your guests help you in the kitchen?    YES    NO

# Kitchen Planning Questionnaire (continued)



8. What size are your gatherings?

Small (up to 10 people)    Medium (10-20 people)    Large (20+ people)

9. How do you grocery shop?

a. for the week    b. for each meal

c. buy canned/boxed items in bulk    d. buy in bulk and freeze

10. Does the primary cook have any physical limitations?

YES    NO    If yes, what type? \_\_\_\_\_

11. If a design could be greatly improved, would you be willing to make structural changes?  
(i.e. moving windows, doors, or walls)

YES    NO    If yes, what changes? \_\_\_\_\_

12. What do you like/dislike about your current kitchen?

Like: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Dislike: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

13. Which of your existing appliances will you be using in your new kitchen?

Dishwasher    Refrigerator    Oven    Range/Cooktop    Microwave

14. If known, which new appliances will you be purchasing?

Dishwasher Make: \_\_\_\_\_ Model #: \_\_\_\_\_

Refrigerator Make: \_\_\_\_\_ Model #: \_\_\_\_\_

Range Make: \_\_\_\_\_ Model #: \_\_\_\_\_

Cooktop Make: \_\_\_\_\_ Model #: \_\_\_\_\_

Oven Make: \_\_\_\_\_ Model #: \_\_\_\_\_

Microwave Make: \_\_\_\_\_ Model #: \_\_\_\_\_

Other: \_\_\_\_\_ Make: \_\_\_\_\_ Model #: \_\_\_\_\_

Other: \_\_\_\_\_ Make: \_\_\_\_\_ Model #: \_\_\_\_\_

15. Do you have a budget for this project? (if so what is it)

YES: \_\_\_\_\_ NO \_\_\_\_\_

16. How did you hear about us?

Magazine Ad    Phonebook    Website

A Friend or Relative    Saw our sign    Other: \_\_\_\_\_

**Design Features**

# Kitchen Planning Questionnaire (continued)



## Cabinetry Wood Preference:

Cherry Maple Oak Alder Birch Hickory Ash Painted Wood Other: \_\_\_\_\_

## Finish Preference:

Stain Stain with Glaze Paint Paint with Glaze Other: \_\_\_\_\_

## Cabinetry Door Style:

Flat Panel Raised Panel Other: \_\_\_\_\_

## Cabinetry Overlay Style:

Square Inset Beaded Inset Full Overlay Traditional Overlay Other: \_\_\_\_\_

**Please CIRCLE the number that applies to your new kitchen project.**

- 1- Very Important    2- Somewhat Important  
3- Not Important    4- Not Applicable

Pull-out Trash 1 2 3 4 \_\_\_\_\_

Recycling Center 1 2 3 4 \_\_\_\_\_

Vegetable Sink 1 2 3 4 \_\_\_\_\_

Cutlery Dividers 1 2 3 4 \_\_\_\_\_

Tray Dividers 1 2 3 4 \_\_\_\_\_

Roll-Out Trays 1 2 3 4 \_\_\_\_\_

Island 1 2 3 4 \_\_\_\_\_

Bar Seating 1 2 3 4 \_\_\_\_\_

Glass Doors 1 2 3 4 \_\_\_\_\_

Appliance Panels 1 2 3 4 \_\_\_\_\_

Spice Storage 1 2 3 4 \_\_\_\_\_

Wine Storage 1 2 3 4 \_\_\_\_\_

Open Shelving 1 2 3 4 \_\_\_\_\_

Other Features: \_\_\_\_\_

# Bathroom Planning Questionnaire



## General Information:

Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
City & Zip: \_\_\_\_\_  
Home Phone: \_\_\_\_\_  
Mobile Phone: \_\_\_\_\_  
Email: \_\_\_\_\_

1. This bathroom will be:  
Master Suite Bathroom \_\_\_\_  
Located in Master Suite? \_\_ Yes \_\_ No  
Children's Bathroom \_\_\_\_  
Located in Child's room? \_\_ Yes \_\_ No  
Guest Bathroom \_\_\_\_  
Located in Guest Bedroom? \_\_ Yes \_\_ No  
Hall Bathroom \_\_\_\_  
Located on main bedroom level of home? \_\_ Yes \_\_ No  
Powder Room \_\_\_\_  
Hall Bathroom \_\_\_\_  
Located on what level of home? \_\_\_\_
2. How many primary users of this bathroom will there be: 1 2 3 4 more
3. Who are the primary users of this bathroom? Adults Children Guest
4. Is this bathroom for a: House\_\_ Condo\_\_ Other\_\_\_\_\_
5. Would you like the shower area and tub separate\_\_ or combined\_\_?
6. Should a linen closet be considered in your new bathroom?  
\_\_ Yes \_\_ No
7. Outside a linen closet, do you want a lot of storage area for personal items?  
\_\_ Yes \_\_ No
8. Do you want an "appliance garage" for commonly used items such as hairdryers and curling irons? \_\_ Yes \_\_ No
9. Do you want his and her facilities? \_\_ Yes \_\_ No