

PROJECT TIMELINE · LAYOUTS · MATERIALS · DOOR STYLES

Preparing for Your Cabinetry Design Meeting

This guide will help you consider the primary decisions we will review during your meeting.

BEFORE YOUR MEETING

- Plan for approximately 2–3 hours
- Bring inspiration photos or color ideas
- Have the primary decision-makers attend
- Gather appliance model numbers and specialty sink information

Your Cabinetry Timeline

1 Schedule Your Design Meeting

BEST TIME: FOUNDATION OR EARLY FRAMING

Meet with us to review your cabinet layouts and begin making selections.

2 Finalize Your Selections

DURING FRAMING

Finalize layouts, materials, colors, door styles, crown, knobs and pulls, appliance model numbers, and specialty sink information.

3 Review Drawings and Pricing

We send updated drawings and pricing to you and your builder. Review everything carefully and request any final changes.

TWO REVISION ROUNDS INCLUDED

We'll work through changes during your design meeting, followed by one final revision after you receive updated drawings and pricing. Additional revisions may require design or estimating fees.

4 Final Approval

TARGET: BY ROOF TRUSSES

All layouts, selections, and cabinetry related specifications must be finalized and approved before production can begin.

NEEDED FOR FINAL APPROVAL

- — Confirmed cabinet layouts
- — Materials and colors
- — Door styles and crown style
- — Any remaining project specific selections
- — Knobs and pulls
- — Appliance model numbers
- — Specialty or oversized sink information

5 Build and Finish

TYPICAL PRODUCTION: APPROXIMATELY 9 WEEKS AFTER FINAL APPROVAL

Materials and doors have lead times. We then cut, build, paint or stain, and prepare your cabinetry for installation. Delayed final approval may affect whether cabinets are ready for the scheduled installation.

6 Cabinet Installation

Installation timing is coordinated with your builder based on the construction schedule.

After cabinet installation, countertop templating, flooring, appliances and final cabinet details follow.







KEEPING YOUR PROJECT ON SCHEDULE

Your biggest role in keeping cabinetry on schedule is making selections and completing final approval during framing. Production begins after final approval and typically takes approximately 9 weeks. Delayed selections, appliance changes, or changes to walls that affect cabinetry may affect your cabinet installation timing.

Planning Your Cabinet Layout

Before your meeting, we create a functional preliminary layout based on your home's plans, builder information, and any preferences provided. It reflects the cabinetry originally estimated for your home.



A functional starting design — personalized if you choose



PRELIMINARY DESIGN

A practical mix of cabinet types. Functional as shown, and reflects your original estimate.



PERSONALIZED EXAMPLE

The same room with optional changes. Changes are reflected in the final price.

What we'll review together

Overall layout

Cabinet and appliance placement, and anything you want changed.

Cabinet configuration

Drawers, doors, open shelving, and other cabinet types.

Storage & features

Pullouts, specialty storage, and additional cabinetry.

Will changes cost more?

Everything drawn is already included in the original estimate. Changes to the layout, cabinet sizes or counts, drawer and door configurations, or added storage features affect the final cost. Pricing and allowances may be communicated through your builder.

> As an example: drawers in place of doors and shelves typically increase the price.

Before your meeting

1. Is there anything on the drawings you already know you would like to change?
2. Where would drawers or specialty storage be most valuable to you?
3. Are there appliances, features, or specific items we should plan around?

How Your Cabinets Are Built

Our standard construction is selected for lasting strength, efficient storage, and a clean finished appearance. These proven methods are used in projects ranging from family homes to high-end custom homes.

Cabinet construction style

FRAMELESS CONSTRUCTION

OUR STANDARD — Included in the original estimate

Clean, full-overlay appearance with unobstructed wider drawer openings, and maximum usable storage.





MODIFIED FAUX INSET LOOK

Optional, affects the final cost

Decorative ¾-inch rails add definition and an inset-inspired look with frameless benefits.

Cabinet interiors



White cabinet-grade melamine

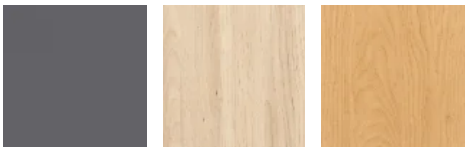
OUR STANDARD — Included in the original estimate

⅝-inch industrial cabinet-grade panel
High-density, compressed core
Durable cabinet-grade resins
Finished, easy-to-clean surface

Manufactured specifically for cabinetry, not the thin, lightweight panels commonly used in inexpensive ready-to-assemble furniture.

Optional melamine interior colors

Available by request



Storm Gray | Champagne Maple | Hardrock Maple

These selections affect the final cost.

Drawer construction



Heavy-duty melamine drawers

OUR STANDARD — Included in the original estimate

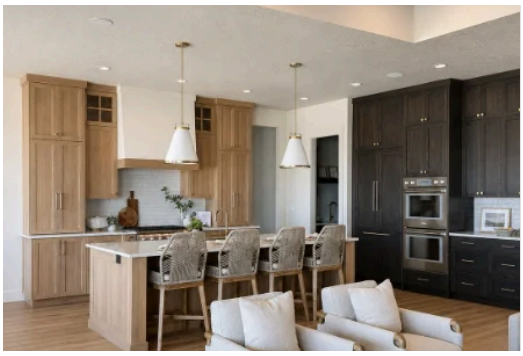
Heavy-duty ⅝-inch bottoms
Fully glued construction
Glued-and-nailed joints
Built for lasting strength and rigidity
Durable finished surface
Easy to clean for everyday use

Other construction options

Plywood cabinet boxes and dovetail plywood drawers are available by request. They provide a natural wood appearance, lighter-weight construction, and traditional joinery; they add considerable cost.

Stained Wood

Stained cabinetry highlights the natural grain and character of real wood. Start by choosing the wood species, then select the stain color.



Wood and stain work together

The species determines grain, character, and undertone; the stain determines the overall color. Because each wood absorbs stain differently, the same stain can look different from one species to another.

Natural variation

Wood is a natural material, so grain, color, and character vary, even within the same species. Review current physical samples before making final selections.

Wood species

Alder OUR STANDARD

Warm, versatile grain that takes stain evenly and suits nearly any style. Alder is typically included in the cabinetry originally estimated for your home; other woods and custom stain matching may affect the final cost.



OTHER POPULAR SPECIES



Rift-cut red oak

Popular selection

Clean, linear grain with a modern look.



White oak

Warm character

Distinctive oak grain with natural movement.



Rift-cut white oak

Refined grain

Straight, clean grain with an elevated look.

Additional woods available: red oak, rustic alder, quarter-sawn oak, walnut, cherry, hickory, and more.

Stain color

A few examples from our current stain offering on alder



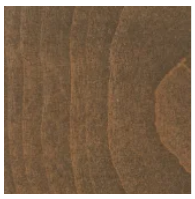
Scandinavian White



Rustic Gray



Tuscan Steel



Foggy Oak



Charcoal

Many more stains available

These are only a few examples. Custom stain matching is also available.

Paint & Wood-Look Materials



Painted cabinetry

Smooth, versatile, and available in nearly any color. Match Sherwin-Williams or Benjamin Moore colors. Custom color matching is available.

PAINTED DOOR CONSTRUCTION

The selected door style determines the painted-door material and construction method used.

HDM · one-piece doors

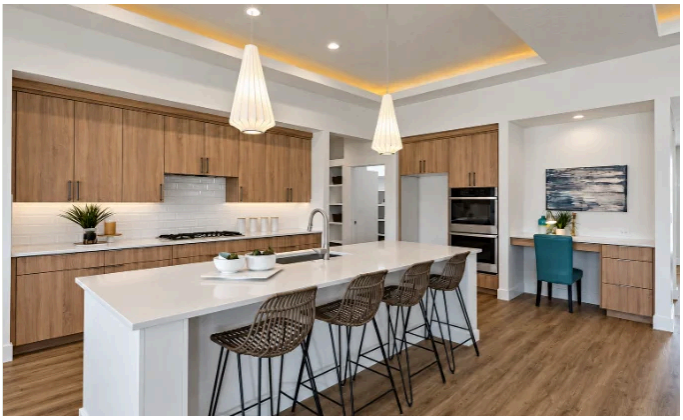
A smooth, stable material routed as one piece for a clean painted finish.

Soft maple + MDF · five-piece doors

Soft maple frames with MDF center panels provide traditional five-piece construction and a smooth painted surface.

Textured Melamine & Prefinished Veneer

Both create a clean, modern wood-grain look and are available exclusively in slab door styles.





Textured melamine

MANUFACTURED WOOD-LOOK SURFACE

A durable, easy-to-clean decorative surface bonded to a cabinet-grade panel. The texture follows the printed grain, creating consistent color and pattern.

Brands we carry: Egger, Uniboard, Tafisa, Stevenswood

Prefinished veneer

REAL-WOOD SURFACE

A thin layer of real wood, commonly white oak or walnut, applied to a stable panel and finished before fabrication. It retains genuine grain and natural variation.

Brands we carry: Shinnoki, Querkus

SELECTION NOTE The original estimate reflects the material and finish originally specified. Changes to the painted-door construction, material selection, or custom color matching may affect the final cost. Make final selections from current physical samples.

Cabinet Door Styles

After choosing your finish, select the door construction and profile. Most homeowners choose one of our five recessed-panel styles, while slab and specialty doors offer additional looks.

Recessed panel styles

Five piece construction · paint or stain · inside and outside profiles may be mixed and matched

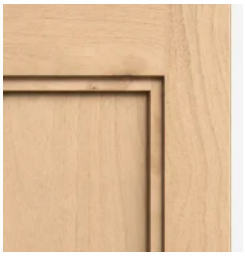


ARTISAN

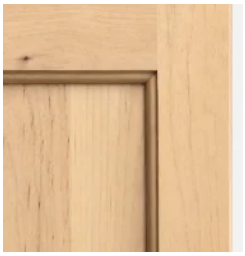
MOST POPULAR



SHAKER



TERRACE



HIGHLAND



TRENTON

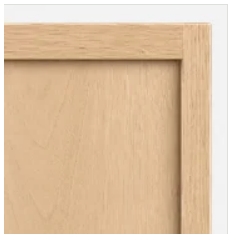
Stain grade All five styles are included and use five-piece wood construction.

Paint grade All five use soft maple frames with MDF center panels; Shaker and Artisan may also use HDM.

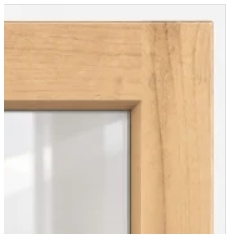
Additional door styles



Slab
Paint, stain, melamine, or veneer



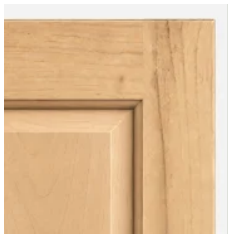
Slim Shaker
Narrow rails; paint or stain



Glass
Any framed style; clear, seeded, reeded, frosted, or mirror



Reeded
Paint grade, white oak, and walnut only



Raised Panel
A traditional look, solid wood center panel

SELECTION NOTE

The original estimate reflects the door style and construction originally specified. Usually a recessed panel style or HDM door. Specialty selections or changes may affect the final cost.

Understanding HDM painted doors







HDM is a high-density fiberboard door made for painted cabinetry: a routed frame around a thin inset panel, giving a smooth, consistent surface for paint.

With no stile-and-rail joints, it resists the wood movement that causes warping and visible joint lines. It is our preferred construction for painted Shaker and Artisan doors.

Drawer front construction



Slab throughout
Our standard construction

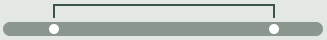


Slab over five piece
Optional: slab top drawer with larger five-piece fronts

Choosing Your Knobs and Pulls

Choose knobs, pulls, or a combination, then select the style, finish, and size you prefer.

HOW PULLS ARE SIZED



Pulls are sized **center-to-center**, the distance between the two screw holes, not the overall length.

96 mm, 128 mm, and 160 mm are common sizes, but many other lengths are available.

MATCHING FINISHES

The same finish can look different between brands. **Choose knobs, pulls, and appliance pulls from one brand when possible.**

Popular finishes: Champagne bronze · Black · Satin nickel · Polished chrome

APPLIANCE PULLS



Paneled Appliances
Larger, sturdier pulls for refrigerators, freezers, and dishwashers with cabinet panels.

TWO COMMON APPROACHES



Knobs and Pulls
Knobs on doors with pulls on drawers.



Pulls Throughout
Pulls on both doors and drawers for a consistent look.

Both approaches are commonly used and look great. Most homes use consistent hardware throughout, although individual rooms may have different hardware.

HARDWARE BRANDS

Amerock

We start with Amerock's Everyday Basics line, which fits within the budgeted material cost. Amerock offers many other lines as well, and most of their cabinet hardware is available to you.

Scan to browse Everyday Basics

Brands also available: Pride Industrial, Berenson, Wurth Pro Value Series, Quinn Hardware, Hickory Hardware

HARDWARE PRICING

What does my estimate include?
Approximately $10 in material cost for each standard knob or pull, plus the time required to order, receive, organize, and install it. This is the material budget, not the full installed price.

What if I choose more expensive hardware?
Selecting hardware above the budgeted material cost will increase the final price.

Are appliance pulls included?
Appliance pulls are selected and priced separately.

PURCHASING HARDWARE YOURSELF

If you find hardware you prefer from another supplier, you may purchase it yourself and still have our team install it. If the hardware is not ready and we need to return another day, a return trip fee will apply. Please have:

- All hardware, plus a few extras, at the home by install day
- Sorted and labeled by room and location
- Written installation instructions
- Special placement reviewed with installers

What Customers Need to Select

- ☐ Brand and product name or number
- ☐ Finish
- ☐ Size
- ☐ Rooms or cabinets where it will be used
- ☐ Matching appliance pulls when needed

FINAL REMINDER
Hardware must be finalized before final cabinet approval.