



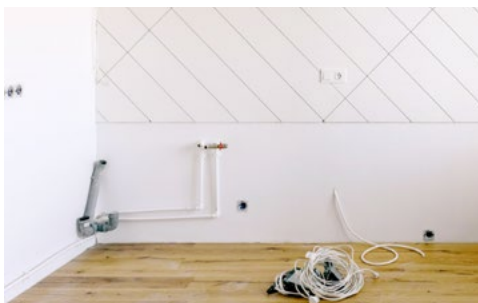
WHAT TO DO BEFORE YOUR KITCHEN COMPANY COMES TO SITE

Consumers tend to get most frustrated when they are hit with the unexpected. The unexpected usually costs money and time and maximum inconvenience when it comes to a kitchen make-over. To try and help, we put together a hit list of things that need taken care of before your kitchen contractor comes to site to start installing your new kitchen.

- Remove the old kitchen if there is one. Very seldom will your kitchen contractor offer to remove your old kitchen. This needs to be arranged independently. There are many building and handyman services that will do this for you. If you are re-using any of the tops or cupboard units from the old kitchen then plan a designated space to house them until they are needed for installation. This includes old wall tiles and flooring.
- Ensure any build work – knocking down of walls, moving of doors, refinishing floors / walls is done and if possible, any workmen not related to the kitchen are off-site. Remember, a kitchen should NEVER be installed on a wet-site even if you are running behind schedule.
- Ensure all changes have been made to your electrical and plumbing layout and that if any

gas piping needs to be run to an island that this is complete prior to the kitchen's installation. If you start trying to chase walls or floors once the kitchen is partly installed you will end up with damages.

- If ordering your own appliances check shipping and delivery periods to make sure you can get all the items in time. It helps the kitchen company to know what appliances you are choosing, their size and ventilation requirements well before installation. It is best to have this info for them during the design phase. If possible, appliances should be delivered to site before or early into the installation and checked on arrival to ensure that they are not damaged and that all the parts are present. Prepare a clear space to store these items safely that is dust and moisture-free.



- If you are going to be living in the house while the renovation is taking place ensure you have a make-shift kitchen set up elsewhere in the house so that you can wash dishes and cook with minimal stress. If you are wanting to minimise on the washing invest in paper plates and plastic

knives and forks. Be creative with small plug-in appliances that can make life easier, such as a two-plate stove or electric skillet. Move temporary waste bins to a place you can tolerate them and be prepared to empty them more frequently.

- Ensure your paperwork is in order. That planning permission for any structural changes is in place. That you have read and fully understand your kitchen contract and drawings
- If your site is running late make sure you keep your kitchen contractor updated. If you change the time he comes to site you will have to fall into his schedule as he will have other sites he needs to work on.



- Prep the rest of the house for contractor. Put anything valuable and breakable away and cover furniture that could get dirty with dust sheets. Make sure you have a plan for the contractors to access a bathroom, somewhere to have their lunch break and access to water and electricity.
- Decide where to put your kitchen goodies and pack it up intelligently – well labelled and with needed items easily accessible. This way you can function while you renovate and you can put everything back in the new kitchen easily knowing what is in which box. This is also the perfect time to declutter and get rid of things bunging up your cupboard that you don't use.
- Batch Cook meals beforehand that can be frozen and reheated easily during the revamp- label and date each one. Trust us – this will be a blessing when the time comes.

- Put a timetable together of who will be on site when, who is cooking, who is fetching kids and who is letting the contractors in and out each day. Being organised in this manner will definitely reduce your stress.
- Make sure you know who your key contact is at the kitchen company so you can quickly and easily get hold of the right person should you have any concerns once the team arrive on site.

