



BUDGETS, BUDGETS, **BUDGETS.**

One of the first questions a kitchen designer is going to ask you is ‘What Is Your Budget?’... As much as we all shy away from the dreaded B...word, the careful consideration of a realistic budget will save you time, stress and a lot of potential disappointment and frustration.

5 Steps to Consider When Budgeting For Your New Kitchen

1 Decide what you want to, or can afford to spend and stick to it. The decision on how much you are going to spend will often be determined by how long you plan to stay in your home. If your purpose for renovating or redoing your kitchen is to sell your

If your goal is to increase the value of your home and to enjoy your new kitchen for years to come then your focus should be on spending the relevant amount to ensure quality and longevity.

2 Establishing your priorities – these will be directly linked to your budget.

If you love entertaining or have a family that loves cooking, then the layout of cabinetry and spacious countertops will be your key focus. This may determine that you allow for a higher percentage of your overall budget on the countertops of your choice.



home in the near future, try and limit your spend to what you know you will get back when you sell the house. Do your research and establish the predicted sale value of the house to avoid over-capitalising on your investment.



If you are a passionate cook with aspirations for state of the art appliances you may rather focus a larger proportion of your budget on appliances.

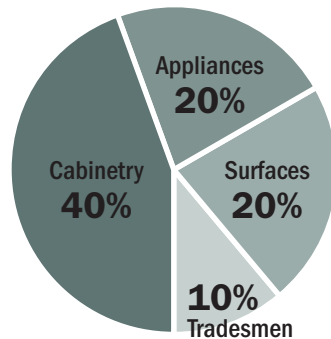
If it is the 'Wow' factor you want to achieve then the overall first impression is going to be your priority – eye catching cabinetry, fancy accessories and complimenting décor will be the focus of the budget.

3 Do your research – once you have an idea of your basic design and layout, consider the other related costs that pertain to a kitchen remodel before committing to any final amount on the cabinetry, countertops and appliances. Get quotes from plumbers, electricians, tilers and painters and any other additional building services that you may require. Don't get caught out by hidden costs.



4 Once you have done your research and established what the priorities for your project are, look at the cost break down percentage wise.

Here is a rough guideline to help you establish that your budget is not being consumed disproportionately in one area of the project:



5 Prepare yourself for unexpected costs. Possible expenses like eating out when you don't have an operational kitchen; or unforeseen costs that may result from human error like concealed piping or electrical wiring that can only be addressed once the old kitchen has been removed. Remember that if you make changes once the kitchen company is on site this will not only add to your cost but to your timeline too.

