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KITCHEN REMODELING CHECKLIST

Phase 1: Define Your Goals

- Define why you are remodeling (function, style, resale, or a mix)
- List current kitchen pain points (storage, layout, counters, traffic)
- Identify who uses the kitchen and how
- Decide if this is a short-term or long-term home
- Write clear success criteria for the remodel

Phase 2: Set a Realistic Budget

- Set total target budget
- Set contingency buffer (10–20%)
- Allocate budget to cabinets, appliances, labor, finishes
- Decide where to splurge vs. save
- Account for permits, delivery, disposal, and labor costs

Phase 3: Define the Scope

- Decide if remodel is cosmetic, partial, or full gut
- Confirm if walls are moving
- Confirm plumbing or electrical changes
- Identify required permits and inspections
- Align scope with timeline and budget

Phase 4: Measure & Document Existing Kitchen

- Measure all walls and ceiling height
- Document doors, windows, and trim
- Record outlet, plumbing, gas, and HVAC locations
- Take photos from multiple angles
- Save all measurements and photos in one place



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Phase 5: Plan Layout & Workflow

- Evaluate kitchen work triangle
- Check traffic flow and walkways
- Plan island clearances and seating
- Confirm landing space near appliances
- Plan storage based on cooking habits

Phase 6: Choose Cabinets

- Choose cabinet type (stock, semi-custom, custom)
- Select door style and finish
- Confirm storage accessories and hardware
- Review molding and toe-kick details
- Confirm cabinet lead times

Phase 7: Select Countertops & Surfaces

- Choose countertop material
- Select edge profile
- Choose backsplash material and height
- Select sink type and size
- Confirm installation sequence

Phase 8: Plan Appliances & Fixtures

- Confirm appliance sizes and specs
- Decide on panel-ready vs. standard appliances
- Confirm ventilation requirements
- Select sink and faucet
- Finalize rough-in locations



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Phase 9: Lighting & Electrical Planning

- Plan ambient, task, and accent lighting
- Confirm under-cabinet lighting
- Confirm outlet placement and code compliance
- Coordinate lighting with cabinet layout
- Review lighting controls and dimmers

Phase 10: Hire Professionals

- Get multiple quotes
- Verify licenses and insurance
- Confirm scope of work
- Review timeline and milestones
- Confirm cabinet installation experience

Phase 11: Permits, Ordering & Scheduling

- Confirm permits and inspections
- Order long-lead items early
- Confirm delivery and storage plans
- Schedule trades in correct sequence
- Build buffer time into schedule

Phase 12: Prepare Your Home

- Set up a temporary kitchen
- Protect floors and furniture
- Plan for dust and noise
- Adjust daily routines
- Prepare pets and children



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Phase 13: During the Remodel

- Inspect cabinet installation
- Check alignment, level, and finish
- Report damage immediately
- Confirm changes in writing
- Stay engaged without micromanaging

Phase 14: Final Walkthrough

- Check cabinet doors and drawers
- Verify hardware installation
- Test appliances, lighting, and outlets
- Review touch-ups and punch list
- Collect warranties and care instructions

