

# The Art of Kitchen Redesign

*Take it from a local interior designer: renovating your kitchen is no easy job. Here are some tips to simplify it.*

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**D**o you have an area or two in your kitchen where piles of things tend to accumulate? Did you run out of storage space long ago? Is it hard to enjoy the fine art of cooking in your kitchen as it's currently arranged?

These are the questions people consider when renovating their kitchens, but where do you start and how far do you have to go to achieve improvements? Kitchen design is a puzzle. An equal balance of science, technology and art must be employed for a successful design.

## Map It Out

When starting a kitchen project, it is



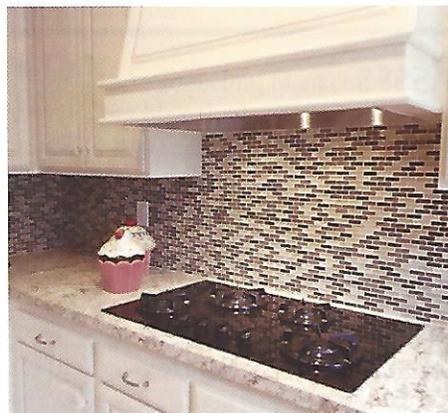
**Redesigning your kitchen can be a tricky task. There are many options that a homeowner can go with, from total renovating, to replacing floors and cabinetry.**

Photos courtesy of Jana Interior Designs

best to draw a floor plan of the existing kitchen. With input from our client, we then determine what works, what does not work and what can and cannot change. Often, the best value is to completely replace the kitchen cabinetry and floors.

***There's a lot you can do by adding technological advances and changing just the cabinet door and drawer front***

However, if the existing cabinetry is solid and the floor plan only has room for minimal changes, there's a lot you can do by adding technological advances and changing just the cabinet door and drawer fronts.



## Getting Started

The first step is to determine if there is adjacent space that can be opened up and incorporated into the kitchen for additional pantry, eating area or countertops and cabinets. If there is space to push the kitchen boundaries, then it's likely an investment in new cabinetry, countertops and flooring will be the recommended approach.

With a total renovation, you'll be able to analyze the best traffic flow to ease the cooking process, select the best materials for easy upkeep, and create the look and style you truly desire.

## No Space?

If the current space plan of your kitchen does not allow for wholesale changes to be made, there is still much to be gained through doing a renovation to the space. Current cabinetry design features can incorporate many space-saving and user-friendly options so that, even within an existing footprint, you can greatly enhance the storage, counter space and workability of your kitchen. Analyze the work area and the flow of the kitchen and find simple changes that will yield significant improvements.

## Sticking Around

An additional aspect to consider with the renovation is how long you plan to live in your home. As many of us are aging and choosing to stay in our homes into our senior years making the kitchen fully accessible to the specific needs of the mature adult can be planned into an earlier renovation. Existing cabinets can also be retrofitted with innovations that will facilitate ease of use if a complete renovation is not part of your plan.

*Jana Rosenblatt is an interior design professional with over 12 years experience in the field. She spent over 20 years working in television and film production. Visit Jana Interior Designs online at [janainteriorsdesigns.com](http://janainteriorsdesigns.com), or call 818-765-1915 to set up a consultation.*