

Glossary of Terms

[A](#) [B](#) [C](#) [D](#) [E](#) [F](#) [G](#) [H](#) [I](#) [J](#) [K](#) [L](#) [M](#) [N](#) [O](#) [P](#) [Q](#) [R](#) [S](#) [T](#) [U](#) [V](#) [W](#) [X](#) [Y](#) [Z](#)

A

Accents

A contrast, outline or highlight for added detail and emphasis.

Accent Lighting

Lighting that emphasises displayed items such as artwork or china cupboards.

Accessibility or Accessible Design

Characteristics of spaces or products that meet prescribed requirements for variations in the physical ability of homeowners and visitors (for example "wheelchair accessible").

Accessories

Additional cabinetry items such as overlays, mouldings or decorative hardware to enhance the appearance and quality of a project. Also includes towel bars, soap dishes, hardware, etc.

Adjustable Shelves

Shelves whose heights are adjustable to make room for tall and short objects. They are supported by shelf holders, such as pegs and dowel pins.

Alcove

A recessed area in a room.

Ambient Lighting

General lighting diffused within an entire room.

Ambient Noise

The level of acoustic noise at a given location, such as in a room.

Anti-Microbial Finish

A material that has an ingredient in the product that inhibits the growth of microorganisms, such as bacteria or fungi.

Antiquity Glass

Blurred, tempered glass with seeded impressions.

Appliance

Machines such as your refrigerator, dishwasher, sinks and coffee machine – any machine used to perform household tasks.

Appliance Cabinet

A common name for a roll-up or single door unit that is placed under a wall cabinet for the storage of small kitchen appliances. Sometimes called a 'tambour' or an 'appliance garage'.

Auxiliary Sink

Second sink in the kitchen providing another work area for either clean-up or food preparation.

Art Deco Kitchen Design Theme

With its origins in post-WW1, Art Deco is characterised by clean, geometric lines. The style is streamlined and features stepped profiles, motifs, simple cabinetry, metallic appliances and hardware, bold colours, and rounded corners.

Aventos by Blum®

A parallel lifting system that makes cabinets easy to open upwards and that can be stopped at any desired position. The system closes silently and effortlessly thanks to the technology of Blumotion.

[Back to top](#)

B**Backsplash**

Wall protection at the back edge of the kitchen countertop, the backsplash is designed to seal the counter and protect the wall from spills and damage. It can be integral to the counter or applied directly to the wall.

Barn Door

Hardware that allows the door to slide along a wall. Useful when a pocket door is too costly or not possible.

Barnstead Glass

Clear, linear-ribbed patterned glass with imbedded wire to diffuse the appearance of objects.

Base Cabinets

Cabinetry used on the floor (as opposed to wall cabinets which are installed at eye-level) to provide countertop support. They have at least one shelf and contain the most amount of storage space. Sometimes base cabinets have pull-out drawers or trays.

Bath Suite

A spacious personal care environment to relax the body and mind, typically attached to a master bedroom or master suite.

Bead (Beaded)

A small double groove, routed out around the perimeter of a cabinet frame or door. Beaded styling adds texture to kitchen design and is useful for remodelling flat panel wood coverings. It is noticeably accentuated by glaze finishes.

Bead Board

Panelling that incorporates beaded, routed detail and that conveys relaxed, casual styling.

Beaded Door

A flat panel kitchen cabinet door that incorporates vertical beading on the recessed panel area of the door.

Beech

Beech is a heavy, pale-coloured, medium-to-hard wood used widely as a maple substitute for contemporary kitchen design styling. It's fine, tight grain and large medullar rays make a great looking veneer slab door.

Bearing Wall

A wall designed and placed in a position to hold more of a load above it. Usually around the perimeter of a house and in strategic locations to support floor, ceiling, and roof beams.

Bevel

The slant of a surface, as on a bevelled edge door.

Birch

Birch is a medium density hardwood with a distinct, moderate grain pattern that ranges from straight to wavy or curly. The predominant sapwood colour is white to creamy yellow, while the heartwood varies in colour from medium or dark brown to reddish brown. This range in colour makes a distinctive statement and works beautifully to achieve any look, from a more casual space to a refined setting.

Blind Base Cabinet

A base cabinet usually incorporated into a design to turn a corner with an appliance or other cabinet perpendicular to it.

Blue Board

A type of gypsum wallboard (drywall) with a blue-coloured paper facing chemically treated to provide a bonding surface for plaster or tile adhesive.

Blum®

Blum is supplier of high quality kitchen hardware products and opening/closing mechanisms.

Breakfront

A large cabinet or bookcase where the centre section projects beyond the two end sections.

Bulkhead

The under-surface of a lowered portion of the ceiling.

Bullnose Tile

Also called a cap tile, bullnose tiles are shaped to define an edge of a surface such as a countertop.

Butt doors

A kitchen cabinet style where two doors with adjacent edges nearly meet, and between which there is no exposed frame or mullion.

Butt joint

Joint formed by butting the ends of two pieces of wood together. Usually attached by glue or staples (or both).

[Back to top](#)

C

CAD

Computer-aided design.

Caesarstone

Caesarstone is a brand name for engineered stone surfaces that are made predominantly of quartz and used for kitchen benchtops.

Canter Racks

Wine storage with a permanent incline to keep corks moist.

Carcass

The body of a cabinet.

CBD®

Certified Bathroom Designer®. This certification is awarded by KBDi to those professionals that specialise in the design, planning and execution of residential bathrooms, and prove advanced knowledge of technical and personal communication skills required to succeed as a design specialist. A candidate must have a minimum of 3½ years of relevant experience and a Certificate IV qualification to qualify to take the academic and design practicum required to earn this certification. Certification certificates are current for one year. Re-issue of certification occurs every year on satisfactory attainment of Continuing Professional Development (CPD) and renewal of KBDi membership.

Ceramic Tile

Made from refined clay, usually mixed with additives and water and hardened in a kiln. Can be glazed or unglazed.

Chandelier

A lighting fixture hung from the ceiling containing several small lamps.

Chromatherapy

The use of colour to affect mood and sense of well-being, for example using coloured lights in a bathtub.

CKD®

Certified Kitchen Designer®. This certification is awarded by KBDi to those professionals that specialise in the design, planning and execution of residential kitchens, and prove advanced knowledge of technical and personal communication skills required to succeed as a design specialist. A candidate must have a minimum of 3½ years of relevant experience and a Certificate IV qualification to qualify to take the academic and design practicum required to earn this certification. Certification certificates are current for one year. Re-issue of certification occurs every year on satisfactory attainment of Continuing Professional Development (CPD) and renewal of KBDi membership.

Classical Kitchen Design Theme

Also known as neoclassical, classical kitchens are known for being blocky, rectangular and symmetrical.

Classic Glass

Classic glass features minimal patterns and texture, with or without bevels, so you can display your serving-ware and collectibles.

Claw-Foot Tub

A tub mounted off the floor on four legs – the base of each leg is shaped like a claw foot.

Clean Door Styling

Uncluttered and straight-lined cabinet design style without extra embellishment.

Clear Floor Space

The area that is free of obstruction within an overall space, typically used in bathrooms in reference to the recommendations for clearances at a centre (i.e. the lavatory or the shower) or for a particular activity (i.e. bathing or exercising). Typically used in kitchens in reference to the recommendations for clearances at an appliances or work centre.

Clearance Space

The space required for the safe and clear use of an appliance, cabinet door or walkway.

Colour Palette

An arrangement or grouping of colours that reflects a particular range of colour selections.

Colour Trends

Prevailing tendency of popular colours.

Complementary Colours

Opposite colours that complement each other. (i.e. opposite colours on the colour wheel). For example, red and green, blue and orange, violet and yellow are complementary colour combinations.

Cool Colours

Colours without red or yellow influence. Blue and green influence cool colours and they evoke a feeling of calm.

Colour Variation

Differences in the colour of pieces of cut wood. Colour variations are part of the beauty and elegance of wood and are common because wood absorbs stains differently in different parts because of density, dryness, etc. Cabinets made of natural wood will always have colour variations.

Colourwashing

A decorative paint technique in which a base colour and glaze are applied to a wall for a muted "washed" effect.

Column

A vertical framing structure that supports loads parallel to its long axis.

Compartmentalised Bathroom

A bathroom where individual activities, like toileting or showering, are separated by walls into individual compartments.

Concealed Hinge

A hinge that is attached to the cabinet door on the inside end of a cabinet, making it invisible from the exterior of the kitchen cabinet.

Conduction

The flow of heat energy through a material. Heat flows from the warmer to cooler side of the material.

Console Sink

A sink basin supported by legs. The legs can be metal or wooden.

Contemporary Kitchen Design Theme

A kitchen style that is minimal and geometric. Contemporary kitchens are known for their spaciousness and efficiency. The style usually includes lighter stained frameless kitchen cabinets and stainless steel, white or black appliances. Contemporary kitchens tend to have a sleek and clean look with furniture that is finished and rounded. The use of wood, metal and neutral colours is also common.

Continuous Pull Handle

The door handle is an integral part of the cabinet door design and runs the full width of the door. The handle is not a separate piece of decorative hardware.

Contrast

The difference in brightness between surfaces in the field of view.

Country Cottage Kitchen Design Theme

This kitchen style is designed to create a homey feel with warmth and comfort. The signature of this style is mismatched furniture, cabinetry, flooring and countertops as well as many patterns. Generally cabinets are distressed and square with rounded accents. The idea is to have creative and visual stimulation for an overall effect instead of symmetry and simplicity.

Cross Grain

A grain that runs diagonally or not in a straight direction.

Crown Molding

Any molding that is applied to the top of kitchen, bathroom or other wall cabinetry.

Custom Cabinet

Custom cabinets are personally designed without style and size limitations.

[Back to top](#)

D

Decorative Doors

Fake doors that have different moldings and decorative shapes that match the kitchen. They are usually installed on the side of the end cabinets or on the back of an island or peninsula. These cabinetry moldings are designed to look like doors, but do not actually open.

Dentil Molding

Any trim moulding with a tooth-like pattern.

Diagonal Corner Cabinet

A cabinet used to span across a corner. Another term for this type of cabinet is a wall angle cabinet, lazy susan cabinet, or corner wall cabinet.

Dishwasher Panel

A finished panel used to cover the exposed side of a dishwasher. This panel looks like the finished side of a cabinet and provides support for the countertop.

Distressing

Factory-applied techniques that give wood an aged look. Features such as random wormholes, compression marks and corner over-sanding are distressing elements used to convey gently aged fine furniture.

Double Compartment Cabinet

An oven cabinet used to house a single oven and a microwave.

Downdraft Ventilation System

A kitchen ventilation system that pulls air (with the by-products of cooking) down through a vent and exhausts it to the outside. The system is typically integrated with the cooktop or installed immediately adjacent to it.

Drawer Face/Front

The front, exposed part of the drawer.

Drawer Slides/Glides/Runners

The metal tracks mounted to kitchen drawers and the inside of kitchen cabinets for suspending drawers and enabling them to open and close. Slides can be bottom or side mounted.

Drywall

Gypsum-based plaster encased between two layers of facing paper, used for interior wall surfaces as a substrate for paint, wallpaper, or tile finishes.

[Back to top](#)

E

Eco Board

Board that is produced to FSC (Forest Stewardship Council) standards, which includes compliance with low emission production methods. This product is suitable for Green Star credit points on projects administered by the Green Building Council of Australia's Green Star rating system.

Eco-Friendly

Having little or no impact on the native ecosystem.

EER

Energy Efficiency Rating, a standard for rating an appliance's energy efficiency. The higher the EER number, the more efficient the appliance.

Emboss

A raised effect on an object.

End Cabinets

A cabinet that is only connected on one side. It has two doors and is usually decorative and unique in order to add style and character to a kitchen. End cabinets may be regular or specialty cabinets.

End Shelf

A type of end cabinet that has shelves instead of doors.

Engineered Wood

Composed of wood fibres and/or particles that have been bonded with synthetic resins under heat and pressure to form boards. Engineered wood is dimensionally more stable and yields a smoother surface for the bonding of laminates.

Epoxy Coated Guides

A fast drying, white protective coating that is baked into hardware metal guides. It can be used for sidemount and undermount hardware. Epoxy coated metal is lesser in quality than stainless steel and usually used for drawers that are not full-extension.

Essastone®

Essastone is a brand name for engineered stone surfaces that are made predominantly of quartz and used for kitchen benchtops.

Etched Glass

Features finely etched patterns over a lightly sanded texture.

Exposed Hinge

A hinge attached to the door and the front frame of the cabinet, making it visible from the exterior of the cabinet.

Extension Drawers

Ideal for low or deep cupboards. See "Full-Access Drawers".

[Back to top](#)

F

Farm Sink

A single, large rectangular bowl with exposed apron front, popular for cottage style kitchen designs and remodels.

Finestone

Finestone is a brand name for engineered stone surfaces that are made predominantly of quartz and used for kitchen benchtops.

Fireclay Sinks

Fireclay sinks are made from a clay base that has been fired at an intense heat to vitrify the clay and fuse the glaze. The result is a durable sink with a nonporous, glossy finish.

Fitting

A device that connects a length of piping or a pipe to a fixture or appliance. A term used for a device that controls water entering or leaving a fixture. Faucets, spouts, drain, controls, water supply lines and diverter valves are all considered fittings.

Fixed Shelves

Shelves whose heights cannot be moved or adjusted. They can be supported by metal or wood brackets in order to provide better support to hold more weight. These types of shelves are often used for closets, basements and attics.

Flat Grain

Wood that has been sawed perpendicular to growth rings.

Flat Panel

A flat door panel with no design.

Flush

On the same plane and/or level with the surrounding surface.

Fluted Columns

Grooves or routings adorned in wood on columns or panels to add detail or accent finishes (such as glazes).

Full-Access Drawer

Drawers that are designed to have the back panel continue past the frame of the cabinet when opened so that the back of the drawer is easily accessible.

Full-Extension Drawer Guides/Runners

Drawer hardware that extends full-access drawers and allows the drawer to pass the face frame of the cabinetry.

Full Overlay

Cabinet door styles that cover most of the face frame, giving prominence to the door and drawer design.

Framed Cabinet

A cabinet box that has a face frame. It resembles a flat, empty picture frame attached to the front. Doors are secured to this frame.

Frameless Cabinet

A cabinetry style in which doors are attached directly to the sides of the cabinet box with hidden hinges. This technique tends to favour a more contemporary look, and it is a hallmark of European-style cabinets.

French Provincial Kitchen Design Theme

Originating in the 17th Century, this sophisticated design theme is defined by the use of decorative details and neutral finishes. The focal point is a mantelpiece which sits above the cooktop, and the design features dentil cornices, handpainted finishes, framed end panels, wrought iron handles and glass-door wall cabinets.

Frieze

Decorative running design or cutout (fretwork) running along the top of a kitchen cabinet.

[Back to top](#)

G**Galley Kitchen Design**

A kitchen layout characterized by two parallel runs of cabinetry on opposing walls.

Galvanized

Metal coated with zinc to resist corrosion.

Glazing

The act of adding thin layers of colour to make wood more shiny and glossy or for two-toned contrast.

Glazes

The substances used to coat cabinetry that produce enhancements in door detail, wood colour and tone. Glazes enhance and improve the beauty of the wood and the base finish colour. Glaze treatments and techniques can vary from heavy to light. Lighter treatments lend themselves to a more subtle appearance.

Gloss Finish

A finish that adds shine and lustre to wood – this finish has a low resistance to scratching.

Grab Bars

Safety bars installed in bathtubs and showers to prevent falls. May also be a device, usually installed on a wall, that provides support while rising from, sitting in, entering, or exiting a bathtub or shower.

Grain

Indicates the direction of the fibers and growth rings in the wood.

Grain Variation

Differences in the grain of cut wood. Because wood is a natural material, grain variations are unique, beautiful and may increase the wood's value. The grain is specific to each type of wood.

Granite

A quartz-base stone used often in kitchen design with a tough, glossy appearance. Granite is harder than marble. As a natural product, variation in the design and colour can be expected.

Graywater

Wastewater from sources such as sinks, showers, kitchens, and washers which, after purification, is used for non-potable uses such as flushing and irrigation. Rainwater from gutters can be used for this.

Green Building

A building that minimizes its impact on the environment through conservation of energy, water, and other resources, while contributing to the health of its occupants without compromising the aesthetic design.

Green Design

A design, also referred to as a sustainable design or eco-design, which conforms to environmentally sound principles of building, material, and energy use. A green design, for example, might make use of skylights, recycled building materials, and energy efficient appliances.

Grout

The material used to fill and seal the joints between ceramic tiles.

G-Shaped kitchen

The most elaborate standard kitchen design, G-shaped kitchens are like U-shaped ones but with a peninsula at one of the ends. These kitchens have the maximum amount of space for preparation, storage and dining.

[Back to top](#)

H

Häfele

Häfele is supplier of high quality fittings and hardware products.

Halogen Heating Element

An element that heats via halogen bulbs in ceramic-glass cook tops and quick-cooking wall ovens.

Hanging Rail

A brace across the back of a kitchen cabinet that is added into each end panel. Screws are driven through the back of the cabinet and into the hanging rail to install the kitchen cabinet to the wall. Base cabinet braces are sometimes referred to as an 'installation rail.'

Hardwood

Domestic lumber derived from deciduous trees such as oaks, maples, and walnuts.

Honed Finish

A satin rather than high-gloss finish achieved by removing the highly polished surface.

Hutch

A free-standing furniture unit created with cabinetry to display, serve or store items. Also known as a buffet server or china cabinet.

[Back to top](#)

I

Inset Doors

Doors and drawer fronts that are recessed to fit flush with the cabinet frame when closed.

Impervious Tile

Tile least likely to absorb water.

Island Bench

An area of cabinets and countertops that don't touch any walls and that can be accessed and walked around from all sides. Considered free standing and usually placed in the centre of the kitchen. They have a variety of uses including extra preparation and storage space, auxiliary sinks, buffet or breakfast bar, etc.

[Back to top](#)

J

No terms

[Back to top](#)

K

KBDi

The Kitchen and Bathroom Designers Institute (KBDi), Australia's only national specialist Kitchen and Bathroom Designers association.

Kosher Design

In Judaism, the term kosher can be applied to foods that meet a series of dietary laws. The ease of meeting some of these dietary laws, such as the separation of meats and dairy products, can be enhanced by the design of the kitchen.

[Back to top](#)

L

Laminate

Any thin material such as wood or plastic glued to the exterior of a cabinet, countertop or other surface. Laminates are decorative and functional, abrasion and scuff resistant, and come in a variety of finishes such as metallic foils, satins, abstract designs and brushed finishes.

Laminex®

A brand name for laminate products.

L-Shaped kitchen

A kitchen designed in the shape of an L which has two connecting sides and a corner cabinet in the centre.

Lazy Susan

An easy-reach base cabinet that has two spinning trays inside. This cabinet also has two doors hinged together and is placed at a 90 degree angle in order to allow maximum storage space.

Lead Time

The time between when a product or item is purchased to the actual delivery date.

Linoleum

An all natural flooring material made of linseed oil, cork dust, wood flour, tree resins, ground limestone, and pigments, regarded as environmentally friendly flooring.

[Back to top](#)

M

Maple

Maple is very versatile and can be seen in both contemporary and traditional kitchens. Sometimes maple has a wavy grain, but it usually has straight grain.

Marble

A semi-hard and durable limestone characterised by varied patterns and colours of veins. As a natural product, variation in the design and colour can be expected.

Matte Finishes

Finishes with an intentionally lower level of shine or lustre.

MDF

Medium-density fibreboard that is made of compressed wood chips. MDF is an engineered wood offering an extremely tight and smooth surface. MDF is favoured for laminating with thermofoils and melamine.

Melamine

A low-pressure laminate that is thermo-fused to a smooth substrate.

Metabox by Blum®

An economical box system for metal drawers and high fronted pull-outs.

Metallics

Finishes or treatments that imitate metal. In the case of laminate, metallic finishes are intended for vertical applications. Metallics can be damaged by heat or steam, hard objects, abrasive substances and solvents.

Metallic Accents (Glass)

Glass surrounded by metal, available on face-mounted aluminium (Fresco) or rear-mounted glass behind the aluminium frame (Vestro).

Mineral Streak

Colour variations in wood due to minerals in the soil. Mineral streaks are often coloured and considered to be a beautiful accent to the wood.

Monochromatic

Having varying tones of one colour in addition to the base hue. A monochromatic colour range is both subtle and sophisticated to facilitate a tone-on-tone solution.

Multi-Functional Spaces

Areas designed for two or more functions or activities. For example a kitchen, home office and sitting area can be designed all within one area or closely adjoined.

[Back to top](#)

N

Needs Assessment

In the context of the design process, gathering information about your needs, wants, and desires for the design project as well as the physical characteristics of the jobsite.

Neo-Classic Kitchen Design Theme

Characterised by the widespread use of Greek styling and decorative motifs with simple, strongly geometric compositions. The design features broad, plain wall surfaces combined with moldings and recessed panels to create crisp outlines and patterns.

NTS

Indicates that a drawing is Not To Scale.

[Back to top](#)

O

Oak

Oak has a prominent, open grain that ranges in colour from white to yellow to reddish brown. Sometimes streaked with green, yellow or black mineral deposits, red oak's strong grain often varies from closely knit to a distinctive, sweeping arch pattern. Its timeless beauty blends with many different designs. This wood is straight grain very durable and absorbent, making it a great choice for kitchen cabinetry. It is also known to be resistant to termites and fungus.

OEM

Abbreviation for Original Equipment Manufacturer.

One-Wall Kitchen

A simple kitchen design that requires one linear wall. The kitchen work triangle is not used since all work stations are on the same wall.

Orga-line for Tandembox by Blum®

A high quality inner-dividing system for drawers and high fronted pull outs (for example, individual cutlery containers that can be removed for easy handling). Each container is made from high grade stainless steel and is dishwasher safe.

[Back to top](#)

P

Painted Finishes

Several coats of heavily pigmented stain saturate the wood for rich, beautiful colour. These finishes are semi-opaque, which means some of the natural beauty of the wood grain may be visible.

Particle Board

A type of high-density, engineered wood that is made of wood particles that are larger than those used for MDF. The product is made from sawdust or wood particles that are bonded with a resin under high heat and pressure.

Pendant

A lighting fixture hung from the ceiling containing one or more lamps.

Peninsula Bench

An extension from an existing counter or a wall. Peninsulas have only three exposed sides and do not require as much clearance space as island benches do.

Pie Cut Shelves

Round spinning trays that contain a cut out for easy turning. They are called pie cut because the cut out piece is similar to a pie slice. They are used in Lazy Susans.

Pine

A straight grain wood that often gives cabinetry a rough look.

Plywood

A panel product made by cross-laminating alternate thin layers of wood.

Pocket Door

A door that slides horizontally on a track and is typically moved inside a wall for storage.

Potable Water

Water sufficiently free from impurities to allow it to be drunk without posing a hazard to health.

Preparation Centre

Long, uninterrupted counter for preparing food. Typically placed between the sink and the cooking surface, or the sink and the refrigerator.

Primary Work Centre

There are three primary work centres in the kitchen – the sink, cooking surface, and refrigeration storage.

Primary Clean-Up/Preparation Sink

The sink used most frequently. If only one sink is planned it will be used for both clean-up and food preparation. A kitchen with primary and auxiliary sinks may separate these tasks.

Pulls/Knobs/Handles

Devices attached or built-in to the cabinetry that enable a person to open a cabinet or drawer. Pulls are often in the shape of the letter "U."

Pull-Out Shelves

These shelves are commonly used in pantries and kitchen base cabinets as they pull-out so that stored items can be properly seen, used, then put back. Pull-out shelves help you reach stored items in the backs of cabinets and prevent the need to bend down or crawl.

Pull-Down Kitchen Sink Spray

A hose-connected, removable nozzle with the ability to disconnect from the faucet mount by pulling downward; this allows better nozzle flexibility and dexterity.

Pull-out Kitchen Sink Spray

A hose-connected, removable nozzle with the ability to disconnect from the faucet mount by pulling outward; this allows better nozzle flexibility and dexterity.

[Back to top](#)

Q

Quartz

A strong mineral manufactured into a compound that is non-porous, waterproof, mould and mildew resistant and heat resistant. As a natural product, variation in the design and colour can be expected.

Quantum Quartz

Quantum Quartz is a brand name for engineered stone surfaces that are made predominantly of quartz and used for kitchen benchtops.

[Back to top](#)

R

R&R

Remove and Replace. A term describing simple remodeling project that involves removing and replacing cabinetry, fixtures and appliances without structural or mechanical changes.

Rabbet

An L-shaped recess cut out of the edge of a board or panel, usually to allow an adjacent piece to overlap it in the same plane.

Raceway

An enclosure for electrical wires, typically mounted on interior surfaces.

Reach Range

The measured distance off the floor within which a person can reach and grasp an item. The "universal reach range" refers to the distance where most people can reach an item.

Recessed Door

A flat panel held inside the perimeter of a door. A flat panel recesses between the stiles and rails.

Re-Circulating (Ductless) Ventilation System

A kitchen ventilation system installed in a hood that pulls air through one or more filters then exhausts the filtered air back into the room. An activated carbon filter to remove odours may be included.

Reclaim

To use a product again after its initial use. This commonly refers to materials such as tile, brick, and stone.

Refacing

A type of cabinet remodelling where the door and drawer faces are removed and replaced. A thin layer of veneer is used to cover the face frame in order to match the new door style.

Refinishing

A type of cabinet remodelling where the cabinets are stripped and sanded bare then stained and sealed with a new colour.

Rendering

A representation of a building, interior, etc executed in perspective. A 3-D representation of a kitchen or bath design. In CAD software, the process of generating an image from three-dimensional objects using viewpoint, texture, and lighting information.

Replacement Kitchen

A kitchen remodel where the new cabinets and appliances are installed in the same locations as the old cabinets and appliances were installed.

Retrofit

An item that replaces or modifies components of the originally installed cabinetry.

Reveal

The exposed portion between the end of the cabinet face frame and the door.

Roll-In Shower

Shower without a threshold that is large enough for a wheelchair to enter.

Rough-In

Where the shower head or other plumbing fitting will be placed in the wall or floor.

Rustic Kitchen Design Theme

Rustic kitchens usually feature recessed flat panel cabinet doors with hand carvings on valances and warm wood tones.

[Back to top](#)

S**Sconce**

A light fixture that is fixed to a wall.

Secondary Centre

A work area established for a specific task, such as baking or salad preparation. It may include an appliance or fixture, storage, and counter space, but is not calculated as part of the work triangle.

Self-Close Mechanism

Drawers containing a piston that responds to various levels of pressure and weight, absorbing the impact and closing the door slowly and safely.

Shaker Style Kitchen Design Theme

A simple and uncluttered design that features plain, square-panelled doors. Shaker doors are widely admired for their simplicity and the style is defined by sharp edges, painted or timber finishes with small, simple handles on all cabinetry.

Sheen

The surface glossiness (or lustre) of paints, ranging from "flat" which is the dulllest, to "gloss" which is the shiniest.

Shelf/Drawer Frontage

A calculation of cabinet size multiplied by the number of shelves or drawers multiplied by the cabinet depth in feet. Used to determine adequate storage in a kitchen.

Single-File Kitchen (One Wall Kitchen)

A kitchen design that has the kitchen cabinet, sink, stove, and refrigerator all along one wall.

Sink Base

A base cabinet made to accommodate a sink. There is no back panel for easy plumbing connections so that drilling and routing is not necessary. These cabinets have fake drawers, but can have tilt-outs to maximize storage space. Sink base cabinets can also be used for cooktops.

Sink Tilt-Out Tray

Most panels underneath the sink are fake drawers. Sink tip-out trays make use of the space, tilting out for extra storage. They are often used to hide sponges, scouring pads and other small items from view.

Soaking Tub

An extra deep tub that allows the user to submerge to their neck.

Soffit Board

A board cut to fit the space between the top of a wall cabinet and the ceiling. Usually used in conjunction with other molding. In kitchen design terms, a soffit is a dropped ceiling that can add dimension or architectural detail.

Soffit Trim Board

Applied to the top of the wall cabinets and designed to help support the soffit board.

Soft-Close Mechanism

Drawers that have magnets that guide the drawer closed. These are not self-closing.

Spa Tub

A large tub that features a whirlpool action with seating for multiple users.

Specifications

Descriptions, in words, of the materials to be used and the quality expected in your kitchen design. Can be either part of the plans or provided as a separate document.

Staining

An alternative to paint which is used to cover and colour a surface, staining is often used to enhance the natural beauty of wood.

Stained Finishes

To create a natural look, a stain colour is thoroughly applied and hand-rubbed onto doors and drawer fronts to ensure equal coverage of colour.

Streamlined

Linear, uncluttered styling detail.

Substrate

A manufactured product used as a base for laminates or veneers. Thickness, density, weight, and surface smoothness may vary depending on the strength required and the laminate to be applied.

[Back to top](#)

T**Tall Cabinet**

A cabinet unit that is full height or size, spanning from the floor to the top of wall cabinet.

Tandem by Blum®

A concealed runner system for wooden drawers.

Tandembox by Blum®

A box system with concealed runners for metal drawers and high fronted pull-outs.

Terms and Conditions

All the provisions and agreements of a contract.

Textured Glass

Patterned glass that creates a translucent window into cabinets to soften and diffuse the look of what is behind the glass.

Thermo Foil

A durable, scratch resistant rigid vinyl that is thermally formed and sealed to MDF to provide a strong, durable cabinet surface. Resistant to most household wear.

Toe Kick Area

An indented space in cabinetry near the floor to accommodate the feet while standing next to a cupboard.

Tone On Tone Colour Theme

A monochromatic approach that uses a narrow range of colours in the same range and hue to convey a subtle, layered effect.

Top-Mount Sink

Kitchen sink with a raised rim or lip that rests on the countertop. The lip helps support the sink within the countertop cutout.

Traditional Kitchen Design Theme

This kitchen style is very versatile and even timeless. Dark wood stains or all-white designs and elaborate moldings are indicative of a traditional kitchen. Stacked and symmetrical cabinetry with stained and glazed door panels is common. Flooring can be hardwood or checkered black and white. The look can be adapted by updating appliances or using different fabrics or door knobs.

Transitional Kitchen Design Theme

Clean, uncluttered, open style that utilises a warm, contemporary approach. Can be a passage between two design styles. A transitional kitchen is a combination of both traditional and contemporary styles. Simple changes such as displaying appliances instead of concealing them or adding fewer moldings to cabinetry can make a kitchen transitional.

Translucent

Material that transmits and diffuses light so that objects cannot be seen clearly (i.e., frosted glass cabinetry doors).

Transparent

Material that transmits light through it so objects can be seen clearly (i.e., clear glass cabinetry doors).

Traffic Flow

The flow of traffic between work stations and guest entrance/exit. It is an important variable when designing a kitchen.

Transfer Shower

A shower open on one side with a seat adjacent to the opening and grab bars on all three sides, to allow for a person to transfer from a wheelchair to the seat.

Trough Sink

A long, narrow sink replicating the shape of a trough that accommodates food preparation and disposal.

Turkish Bath

A steam bath that is followed by a shower and massage.

Two-Pack Paint (2 Pac)

Available in gloss, satin or textured finishes, two-pack paint provides a hardened surface for your cabinetry. It is a specialised, two-part painted finish applied to the face and edges of doors and panels. It is available in almost any colour and the gloss level can vary from high gloss to satin finish or matt finish.

[Back to top](#)

U**Undercounter Sink**

Undercounter sinks mount beneath the counter for use with solid-surface, granite, stone or blended stone countertops.

Undermount Guides

Drawer hardware that is mounted underneath the drawer. Undermount guides can usually carry more weight than sidemount guides

Updraft Ventilation Systems

A kitchen ventilation system that includes a hood over a cooking surface to capture air borne by-products of cooking, and a fan to pull air up. Captured air is either exhausted to the outside of the home or filtered and re-circulated back into the room, depending on the system.

U-Shaped Kitchen

U-shaped kitchens allow for the maximum amount of base and wall cabinets. They are shaped like a U and have three sides.

Utility Sink

Large sinks serving a multitude of purposes, from laundry and garden cleanup to pet washing.

[Back to top](#)

V**Valance**

A decorative, flat molding piece used as a decoration or as a bridge between two cabinets. It is generally placed above sinks, refrigerators and windows.

Vanity

A general term for base cabinets in restrooms and bathrooms.

Varnish

A clear and glossy protective finish consisting of drying oil, resin and a solvent.

Veneer

A thin protective sheet made of wood or other materials used as decoration.

Victorian Kitchen Design Theme

A style that consists of ornate decorations including gables, turrets and trims.

Vinyl Laminate

A laminate used inside cabinets instead of melamine that is easier to clean.

Ventilation System

An exhaust fan or unit which pushes or pulls inside air and odours to the outside.

Vichy Shower

A seven-headed rain bar with pressure spray treatment used to apply water and warmed essential oils to relax and stimulate the mind and body.

Vintage Finishes

This finish creates the look of heirloom cabinetry that's been well-used and loved. The wood is first distressed and over-sanded. Several coats of heavily pigmented stain are then applied, followed by another round of over-sanding on the corners and edges of doors and drawer fronts.

Visible Object Lines

Solid lines used to show wall cabinets, tall cabinets, countertop surfaces, flooring, furniture, some appliances and any other item not covered or hidden in any way.

Visitability

The condition of a home that has been planned to allow for a guest with accessibility needs. Includes a level entry, wide doorways, and an accessible bathroom on the first floor.

Vitreous China

Vitreous china plumbing fixtures are comprised of ceramic materials fired at a high temperature to form a nonporous body with exposed surfaces coated with ceramic glaze fused to the body.

[Back to top](#)

W

Wall Cabinets

These cabinets are installed at, or above, eye-level. Wall cabinets are any cabinet placed above countertops that have one or two doors (depending on the width of the cabinet). They can have adjustable or fixed shelves.

Wall-Mount Sink

Wall-mount sinks are constructed with an integrated backsplash and are hung on a bracket.

Warm Colours

Red, orange, and yellow represent warm colours. These colours evoke a sense of energy.

Willow

A soft, light green painted finish for selected maple styles.

Work Aisle

Space needed to work at the kitchen work centres.

Work Stations

The typical work areas in a kitchen. There are three main areas to be considered: (1) Refrigeration, (2) Preparation and Cleaning, and (3) Cooking. Sometimes a fourth, Baking, is also included.

Work Triangle

An ergonomic diagram that aids kitchen designers in remodelling a kitchen based on spatial planning and functionality. The three points of the triangle are sink, refrigerator and stove/oven.

[Back to top](#)

X

No terms

[Back to top](#)

Y

No terms

[Back to top](#)

Z**Zones**

Inter-related centres (or stations) that are laid out to make your kitchen more organized and comfortable.

[Back to top](#)

Sources:

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