

LIVING THROUGH YOUR KITCHEN RENOVATION

Some popular kitchen design shows on television give the impression that a complete beautiful kitchen renovation can be completed in just a few days. It can, however, take several weeks from when initial tear-out begins until you are preparing your first meal in your newly completed kitchen, depending on the scope of work being done.

Remodeling is a messy business, and you may find yourself without the comforts you take for granted, such as a sink, stove or dishwasher. When planning your renovation, consider where you might transfer some of these tasks on a temporary basis. Is there a space in your home where you can set a small refrigerator and coffee pot? Your microwave and barbeque may become your closest friends! Here are some tips to help you through this final leg of the journey.

1. Set up a temporary `kitchenette` somewhere away from the mess and noise. Make room for a microwave, kettle, coffee pot, a few basic dishes, and water jugs (to keep water at hand).
2. Being without a kitchen sink will likely be one of your biggest inconveniences. If you`re having any significant work done, you could be without one for several weeks. A few things you can do to work around this:
 - Prepare some meals in advance to heat up in the microwave. Put them in small containers; it`s hard to wash pots and large dishes in your bathroom sink.
 - Much as we dislike creating extra waste, consider using disposable plates and cups for a short time. It will cut your dishwashing headaches dramatically.
3. Remember that some stages of renovating can be noisy; you may find it hard to concentrate if you work from home.
4. If you have sensitive pets, let your designer know. He or she can let you know if there may be specific days in the process when you might want to send them to a pet-sitter.
5. There will likely be some unexpected delays and frustrations in the process, but remember that if you`re working with a professional company these challenges will be dealt with appropriately and efficiently. Communication between you, your designer and your installer is key. You can rest assured that the drywall dust will eventually disappear, the countertop will finally be installed (along with your plumbing!), and you will have your house back – complete with the beautiful kitchen that started you down this journey in the first place!