

OWNER CLIENT	IMPORTANT DECISIONS	BRUCE KRANZLER / CABINETMAKER / bruce@bkwood.com 415-454-8100 / 707-878-2389
IMPORTANT INFO FOR CABINET-MAKER		
FLOOR TYPE	THICKNESS	The cabinetmaker needs to know the thickness of the finished floor especially if the upper cabinets carry to the ceiling. You can decide on the color but the dimension (thickness) is vital to know to start the job.
APPLIANCES	GENERAL	Very important to decide on all the appliances (except the microwave below) These decisions need to be made for the job to start.
	DISHWASHER	These vary. If you have specified thick countertops (over 1 1/2") it's a good idea to go with a European model because they adjust lower than domestic models. Concealed front models can have an impact on standard cabinet depth so be sure to notify your designer if this is your intention. This refers to a wood panel on the front of the unit that conceals the door.
	MICROWAVE	It might be wise to wait until the end to order this after making your requirements known to the designer and cabinetmaker. There are many possibilities for size and sometimes these have to be fit into difficult layouts. Make a tentative choice and keep you options open.
	REFRIGERATOR	Important to decide on a specific model particularly if it's built-in.
	RANGE COOKTOPS OVENS	There are numerous ways these can effect cabinets. Their overall dimension, venting requirements, clearance requirements, etc. A specific unit needs to be chosen
	HOODS	Very important if it is in any way built in. Some free standing models can be free of the cabinets but generally these must be specified before anything can be built.
	MISCILLANIOUS	Undercounter fridge, warming drawers, etc. Anything that has to fit under the counter, like a wine cooler or fridge can pose problems with standard counter heights and unusually thick counters
COUNTERS	GENERAL	Refer to illustration
BATHS		Large sinks may require wider cabinets and counter, vanities are two inches narrower than kitchen cabinets. Custom cabinets can be built deeper if necessary to provide for a larger sink.

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TILE / STONE		Tile can pose a problem in front of a kitchen sink if there is a flip out front under the sink. The narrow band of tile in front of the sink can be weak and crack. Better to forego the flip out in favor of a strong, rigid apron behind the cabinet front. This will prevent flexing.
PLUMBING	GENERAL	
	FAUCETS	Tall faucets at sinks that are backed up to bars can conflict with bar tops. Have these clearly specified before the job is started.
	SINKS	Any exceptionally large sink is going to have to have special
BATH VANITY ISSUES		Large bathroom sinks with fixtures mounted in the counter top often require more than a standard 22" counter top.
COUNTER HEIGHTS	GENERAL	With the exception of the bath vanity (below) I would recommend sticking with the heights in the "STANDARD DIMENSION PDF"
STANDARD DIMENSIONS	GENERAL	There are standard for many aspects of cabinetry. For a complete list see "STANDARD DIMENSION PDF"
	KITCHEN	There was a trend to raise kitchen counters an inch or two but it appears to have subsided and I wouldn't recommend altering the 36" standard in a kitchen. This seems low if you hold a tape to the wall but it is standard and is an appropriate working height.. Never lower counters below this height. Appliance heights, stoves, dishwashers, etc. are set to work at this height and taller.
	CABINET DEPTH	Upper cabinets may be deeper but 13" over all (11 1/2" inside) is typical you may want to go deeper if you have larger plates
	BATH	Standard vanity height is 32" which I think is low by today's standards. 34 or even 36 for adults is better.

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