

Cabinet Hardware Selection Guide

1. Choosing the Right Handle Size

Selecting the appropriate handle size for your cabinets is a key factor in achieving the desired look and functionality. There are two main approaches to handle sizing:

Consistent Sizing Throughout

Using the same size handles on all cabinet doors and drawers creates a clean, modern, and uniform appearance. This approach is especially effective in contemporary kitchens and bathrooms. For example, you might choose 5-inch pulls for all doors and 7-inch pulls for all drawers.

Scaled Sizing by Cabinet or Drawer Size

Alternatively, you can scale the handle size based on the size of each cabinet or drawer. This method creates visual balance and proportion for each piece and works well in traditional or transitional spaces. For instance, small drawers may use 3- to 4-inch pulls, wide drawers could have 8- to 10-inch pulls, and tall doors might feature longer pulls.

General Guidelines

When choosing hardware sizes, consider these general recommendations:

- Doors: Pulls should be approximately one-third the height of the door.
- Drawers:
 - Small drawers (12 inches wide or less): 3- to 5-inch pulls
 - Medium drawers (12 to 30 inches wide): 5- to 7-inch pulls
 - Large drawers (30 inches wide or more): 8- to 12-inch pulls, or use two smaller pulls

2. Understanding Center-to-Center (CC) vs. Overall Length

When selecting cabinet hardware, it's important to understand the difference between center-to-center (CC) and overall length. The CC measurement refers to the distance between the screw holes and is the functional measurement needed for installation. The overall length is the total end-to-end length of the hardware and affects the visual appearance but not the fit. Hardware should always be ordered according to the CC size. However, make sure you are satisfied with how the overall length looks on your cabinetry before placing your order.

3. Selecting a Finish

The finish of your cabinet hardware can either match or complement other fixtures in your space. Matching finishes to faucets, appliances, and other fixtures creates a cohesive look, while choosing complementary tones—for example, matte black hardware with brushed brass lighting—offers a pleasing contrast.

Consider practical aspects when selecting a finish. Brushed and matte finishes are better at hiding fingerprints compared to polished or glossy finishes. Dark finishes can add drama to your design but may show dust more easily.

Timeless choices such as satin nickel, brushed brass, and matte black remain popular for their versatility and lasting appeal.

4. Ordering Your Hardware

Through Burkard Custom Cabinets

Burkard Custom Cabinets is a dealer for Hardware Resources. Customers who order hardware through us receive a 25% discount off the list price. You can view available options on the Hardware Resources website or request a printed catalog from us (catalogs must be returned after use). Once you have made your selections, please provide the item numbers to our team so we can verify pricing and place the order on your behalf.

Samples

For customers who would like to see hardware in person before making a final decision, we offer the option to order sample handles at a cost of \$7.00 per handle. This allows you to view the style, finish, and feel of the handle directly in your space prior to committing to a full order. If you decide not to use the sample, you are welcome to return it to us. Returned samples are added to our shop library for future customer use. Please note that sample charges are non-refundable, as we are unable to return them to the supplier.

Other Suppliers

You are welcome to purchase hardware from any supplier you prefer. Regardless of where you order, all hardware must be on site at the time of cabinet installation so our team can install it.

5. Our Recommendations

Begin your selection process by browsing styles that appeal to you—whether modern, traditional, or transitional. Decide if you prefer a consistent hardware size throughout your project or a scaled approach based on cabinet and drawer sizes. Narrow your choices by selecting finishes that complement your space. Before placing your order, confirm both the center-to-center size for installation and the overall length for aesthetics. When it comes time to place your full order, we recommend carefully verifying the total number of handles needed and ordering at least one extra of each size. This ensures you'll have a spare on hand in case of damage, miscounts, or future replacements.