

**Menu**

Set Weather

Subscribe

Search



# Kitchen remodel dos and dont's: Make a list of absolutes (photos)

Updated February 2, 2016 at 9:41 AM;  
Posted February 2, 2016 at 7:00 AM

3

0  
shares

By **Homes & Gardens of the Northwest staff**

Is your kitchen the culinary center you want it to be? Maybe a remodel is on your mind. If so, interior designer Robin Wilson of [Robin Wilson Home](#) and author of "[Clean Design: Wellness for Your Lifestyle](#)," offers these dos and don'ts for a makeover of the kitchen, the room she calls the "nexus point for family interaction and entertainment":

- Don't remodel your kitchen for a prospective buyer, because you may not get back 100 percent of what you spend. Typical payback is 50 to 80 percent, with the less personal, mass-market renovations (that is, neutral colors/white cabinets) receiving the most payback.
- Do create a list of "absolutes" before you walk into a kitchen design meeting with a designer or home showroom or even a home improvement warehouse. If you are not sure beforehand what you want and do not want, you are likely to be seduced into buying unneeded items.
- Do think about colors and styles before you walk onto a sales floor. Read design magazines and tear out photos in advance, or the sales rep may convince you that there is a certain bestseller that is really a higher-priced choice--it could be the model the salesperson is trying to unload, or he or she is getting a "special promotion" from the manufacturer.
- Don't design your kitchen with someone else's life in mind. If you cook frequently and have a busy kitchen full of people, then avoid countertop materials that scratch and stain easily or that need regular maintenance. Likewise, if you hardly ever cook, do you really need a six-burner stove and restaurant-quality range?
- Don't buy a "faux-pro" model or Professional Series because most



---

Use of and/or registration on any portion of this site constitutes acceptance of our **User Agreement** (updated 5/25/18) and **Privacy Policy and Cookie Statement** (updated 5/25/18).

© 2018 Advance Local Media LLC. All rights reserved (**About Us**).

The material on this site may not be reproduced, distributed, transmitted, cached or otherwise used, except with the prior written permission of Advance Local.

**Community Rules** apply to all content you upload or otherwise submit to this site.

**Your California Privacy Rights**

**Ad Choices**

