

HARDWARE

The jewelry for the cabinet



When embarking on a kitchen renovation, choosing your cabinet color and style take center stage. However, an often overlooked and underestimated piece of the renovation is *hardware*. The choice of cabinet hardware, style and size can dramatically influence the aesthetic and functionality of the space.

First, consider the design and functionality of your kitchen. If the cabinetry is **modern** in appearance, try minimalist pulls for a sleek, contemporary look or square knobs for an aesthetic twist. In **traditional** kitchens, ornate and intricate hardware offer both sophistication and flare. **Farmhouse** and **rustic** kitchens call for warmth and charm so consider antique or unique one-of-a-kind knobs. And finally, **transitional** kitchens call for a blend of both pulls and knobs creating a truly balanced design.

KEY DIFFERENCES

KNOBS

Typically round or square

Attaches with a single screw

Perfect for smaller cabinets and drawers

Adds a subtle touch of elegance

Available in various materials, finishes and designs



PULLS

Longer handle

Often used on larger drawers or cabinets

Can be mounted in various ways

Perfect for heavier doors

Compliments overall room aesthetic, adds WOW factor



* Keep in mind if you frequently access large drawers pulls may offer a more comfortable grip.

COLOR, SIZE, AND PLACEMENT

Selecting the right hardware is a pivotal aspect of revitalizing your spaces and enhancing the overall aesthetic of your home. When choosing your hardware, it's essential to consider the color, size and placement as these elements play a crucial role in creating a cohesive and stylish look.

COLOR

Make sure to match your kitchen cabinet handles to your appliances, lighting, and faucet finishes. This thoughtful consideration can significantly elevate the overall appearance of your kitchen creating a polished and intentional look that resonates with your home's character.

A color scheme is a combination of colors used to create a mood or feeling in a design or artwork. For example, blue and green can create a calming feeling, while red and orange can create excitement.

Hardware ideas for kitchens:

Light cabinets /dark hardware - Contrast

Gray cabinets / brushed copper pulls - Modern, bold, or rustic

White cabinets / black hardware / wood elements - Farmhouse aesthetic

Greige / white cabinets - Warm and modern

White cabinets / brass hardware - Classic and minimalistic

Dark cabinets / matte pulls or knobs - 'Old-fashioned' character

Mixed metals: Dynamic and visually interesting

SIZE

When it comes to choosing the right size cabinet pulls, understanding the importance of balance is essential. The "1/3 rule" for cabinet pulls means that the length of your pull should be roughly one-third the width of the drawer or height of the cabinet door, creating a visually balanced look where the pull complements the cabinet without overwhelming it or disappearing into the background; essentially, it provides a good proportion and ensures the pull is noticeable but not too dominant on the cabinet face.

There is no right or wrong size to choose, but we do recommend choosing pulls that have at least a 3-3/4" center to center (the distance between the screw holes.) This size looks aesthetically pleasing on most cabinets, while still being large enough to grip comfortably. Pulls with a length of 5" - 6.5" are also an excellent choice.

PLACEMENT

What is the standard spacing for cabinet pulls?

The bottom of the pull (on upper cabinets) and top of the pull (on lower cabinets) are centered on the corner. This placement is also the most practical, ensuring the handles are within reach.

When placing cabinet knobs or pulls on a cabinet door, the **standard "distance from corner"** is typically **2.5 to 3 inches from the bottom corner for upper cabinets** and **from the top corner for base cabinets**, ensuring a balanced look across your cabinetry.

When placing hardware on a stile, you should consider the following:

Stile

A stile is a vertical piece of wood on the outside of a cabinet frame or door. Stiles are combined with horizontal rails to create a cabinet frame.

Pull Placement

For base cabinets, pulls are typically placed 2.5–3 inches from the upper corner of the door. For drawers and pull-out cabinets, pulls are usually centered on the drawer front.

Shaker Cabinets

For Shaker cabinets, the most common placement is to center the knob or pull handle on the recessed drawer panels.

Cup Pulls

Cup pulls are only used on drawers and are usually centered in the middle of the drawer slab.

The kitchen is the truly the heart of the home, a place where special memories are made with family and friends. Taking the time upfront to choose the correct cabinet hardware will ensure your kitchen design is both cohesive and aesthetically pleasing to the eye. In turn, you'll have a room you'll appreciate for years to come.

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