



# 5 Design Mistakes to Avoid Renovating *Your Kitchen*

beginner's guide

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# Hi, I'm The Southern Girl Chantè Lavette



*Southern Girl*  
INTERIORS

A Professional Interior Designer that teaches homeowners how to plan, select, budget and design unforgettable interior spaces though E-Design & In-Person Consulting.

## Welcome to My 5 Design Mistakes to Avoid Before Renovating Your Kitchen

In this guide, I share with you 5 invaluable tips of things to avoid before you begin a renovation.

When it comes to designing a kitchen, there's a delicate balance between functionality and aesthetics.



# 1. Design Mistake to Avoid

## *Changing Your Existing Kitchen Layout*

One of the costliest mistakes in kitchen design is unnecessarily changing the layout.

While it may be tempting to completely overhaul the floor plan, it often leads to extensive plumbing and electrical work, driving up the overall cost of the project.

### Take Some Time To Evaluate Your Existing Layout

*Don't Skip This Step*

Instead, focus on optimizing the existing layout by maximizing storage space and improving workflow. Simple changes like adding pull-out drawers or installing a kitchen island can make a big difference without breaking the bank.



## 2. Design Mistake to Avoid

### *Not Having All Items on Site*

I CAN NOT stress this mistake enough. When redesigning a kitchen, it's essential to have all the necessary items on-site before starting the project. This includes fixtures like faucets, sinks, tiles, grout, and light fixtures.

Waiting until the last minute to order these items can cause delays and potentially derail the entire project timeline.

By planning ahead and ensuring that everything is readily available, you can streamline the renovation process and minimize disruptions.

### Not Having Small Items Can Delay Your Reno

(Like Your Grout Color Not In Stock!)

### *Be Sure to Have*

- |  |  |  |
|--|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Sinks                           | <input type="checkbox"/> Field Tile              | <input type="checkbox"/> Blinds                          |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Faucets                         | <input type="checkbox"/> Finish Tile/Bullnose    | <input type="checkbox"/> Appliances                      |
| <input type="checkbox"/> All Necessary Plumbing Supplies | <input type="checkbox"/> Grout In Selected Color | <input type="checkbox"/> Flooring/Wood Transition Strips |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Light Fixtures                  | <input type="checkbox"/> Cabinet Hardware        | <input type="checkbox"/> Door Knobs/Hinges               |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Switches/Outlets                |  | <input type="checkbox"/> Any Specialty Items             |



# 3. Design Mistake to Avoid

## *Spending Too Much on Appliances*

While high-end appliances can certainly elevate the look of a kitchen, overspending on them can quickly blow your budget.

Instead of splurging on top-of-the-line models, consider opting for mid-range appliances that offer the same functionality at a fraction of the cost.

Additionally, explore appliance outlet stores or online marketplaces for discounted options without compromising on quality.

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**Extra Tip:**



Choosing a counter-depth refrigerator without an ice and water maker can save you money.

These models are more affordable upfront and eliminate the need for extra plumbing connections, reducing installation costs. Without the dispenser, the refrigerator's door has a sleeker, cleaner look that complements your kitchen design.

Plus, fewer components mean lower chances of malfunctions, resulting in reduced long-term repair expenses. In short, it's a practical and budget-friendly option that doesn't sacrifice functionality or style.



## 4. Design Mistake to Avoid

### *Adding a Pretty Faucet Without a Sprayer*

A stylish faucet can be a focal point in any kitchen, but it's essential to prioritize functionality as well.

Investing in a faucet without a sprayer can limit its usability, making everyday tasks like washing dishes more cumbersome.

Before making a purchase, consider the practicality of the faucet and opt for one that combines both form and function.

#### **Extra Tip:**



Additionally, opt for a faucet with a high arc spout to accommodate larger pots and pans, making meal preparation more efficient. Remember, while aesthetics are important, ensuring your faucet meets your practical needs will enhance your overall kitchen experience.



# 5. Design Mistake to Avoid

## *Not Updating Your Outlet & Light Switches*

Outdated outlets and light switch rockers can detract from the overall aesthetic of your kitchen design.

As you plan your renovation, don't overlook these small details. Consider upgrading to modern, sleek outlets and switch plates that complement the style of your kitchen.

Not only will this enhance the visual appeal of the space, but it will also ensure that your kitchen is equipped with safe and up-to-date electrical components.

## *In Conclusion*

Designing a functional and stylish kitchen requires careful consideration of various factors.

By avoiding these common mistakes and focusing on practicality, efficiency, and aesthetics, you can create a space that not only looks great but also meets your everyday needs.

Remember to plan ahead, stick to your budget, and prioritize both form and function for a successful kitchen renovation.

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