

Kelco Cabinets Releases Cost Comparison Data on Shaker vs Flat Panel Cabinet Door Styles

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Kelco Cabinets LLC has released original pricing analysis comparing the cost of shaker and flat-panel cabinet door styles, drawing on build data compiled from its own custom cabinet projects. The findings are intended to help homeowners planning a kitchen remodel understand a cost dynamic that is frequently misunderstood.

The central finding addresses a common point of confusion in the shaker vs flat panel cabinets cost conversation. Many homeowners assume one door style is uniformly less expensive than the other, when in practice the real cost driver is where on the price spectrum a homeowner is shopping.

According to the analysis, in mid-range custom cabinet builds, flat-panel doors typically run ten to fifteen percent below shaker as a baseline cost. This is largely because flat-panel doors require fewer joints and less material than framed shaker doors. That relationship reverses at the premium end. Flat-panel doors finished in high-end veneers, matte lacquer, or high-gloss surfaces often cost fifteen to twenty five percent more than a comparable mid-range shaker door, since there is no frame to conceal minor material imperfections and the

finish work demands greater precision.

Kelco Cabinets notes that these figures are directional estimates for mid-range and premium custom builds. Actual pricing depends on material, finish, and cabinet box construction, and any cabinet door style cost comparison will shift with those variables.

"Homeowners often walk in believing one style is always the cheaper option, and the truth is more nuanced than that," said Preston Kelsch, owner of Kelco Cabinets. "Understanding the cost of shaker vs flat panel cabinets before committing to a door style helps people budget realistically and avoid surprises later in the project. The style itself matters less than where a homeowner is shopping on the price spectrum."

The data arrives as shaker remains one of the most requested cabinet styles heading into 2026, valued for its versatility across traditional, transitional, and modern farmhouse kitchens. Flat-panel, sometimes called slab, continues to gain interest among homeowners pursuing a modern or minimalist look with clean, uninterrupted door surfaces.

Beyond cost, the two styles differ in maintenance and appearance. Shaker doors, with a recessed center panel and framed border, offer a classic look that suits most home styles. Flat-panel doors present a single smooth surface that reads as more contemporary. A full cabinet cost comparison and additional detail on each style are available through the company's published guide, which functions as a broader cabinet style guide for homeowners weighing their options.

The analysis reflects patterns Kelco Cabinets has observed across its custom builds rather than manufacturer list pricing, offering homeowners a view grounded in real project data.

Kelco Cabinets is a custom cabinetry and remodeling company based in Springfield, Missouri, serving communities across southwest Missouri including Bolivar, Willard, Ozark, Republic, Battlefield, Nixa, Branson, Stockton, Pleasant Hope, and Rogersville. The company specializes in custom kitchen cabinets, countertops, flooring, and backsplash installation for both new construction and existing remodels, focusing on craftsmanship and designs tailored to each client's style and budget.

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Kelco Cabinets LLC

Locally owned cabinet company in Springfield, MO offering custom-fit kitchen and bathroom cabinetry, in-home design support, quality materials, and professional installation for homeowners.

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