



Schooner Bay Builders Publishes Homeowner Guide on Kitchen Remodeling Costs

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Schooner Bay Builders has released a homeowner guide that identifies what actually determines kitchen remodeling costs, written for homeowners in the Fort Myers and Cape Coral area of Southwest Florida. The guide moves past broad price ranges to explain the specific decisions that shape a project budget, giving area residents a framework for planning a remodel before work begins.

The central finding of the guide is that the scope decision moves a budget more than any single material choice. A cosmetic refresh, a partial remodel with minor layout adjustments, and a full gut that relocates walls or plumbing sit at very different points on the cost curve. According to the guide, homeowners who compare finishes and appliances before settling on scope often anchor their expectations to the wrong number, because the size and complexity of the work sets the range within which every material decision is then made.

The guide names four components that define both scope and price: cabinets, countertops, backsplash, and

flooring. Cabinet selection carries the most weight, typically consuming 30 to 40 percent of a total remodel budget, which makes it the single largest lever a homeowner controls. Countertop materials, backsplash choices, and flooring account for much of the remaining variation, and the guide encourages homeowners to balance premium selections in high-impact areas with budget-conscious choices elsewhere to manage overall expenditure.

A full section addresses a regional factor that homeowners outside Southwest Florida rarely face. The guide explains that local humidity can warp cabinet doors and fade finishes when materials are specified for drier climates. A product that performs well in a showroom or a northern home may fail prematurely along the Gulf Coast, which turns an ordinary material decision into a replacement cost later. For that reason, the guide advises homeowners to weigh moisture resistance and finish durability alongside appearance when selecting cabinetry and surfaces.

The guide closes its informational portion with a single takeaway: defining scope before demolition begins is what keeps a budget intact. It notes that the initial consultation is where accurate estimating information gets gathered, from measurements and existing conditions to a homeowner's priorities, and that skipping this step is a common source of budget overruns once a project is underway.

A representative from Schooner Bay Builders said the guide was produced to correct a recurring pattern. "Most homeowners walk in focused on countertops and cabinet colors, but the number that decides their budget is scope, and that gets settled long before anyone picks a finish," Gardner said. "What people tend to misjudge is how much moving a wall or relocating plumbing changes the math. We wanted a resource that explains those trade-offs in plain terms so families can plan with realistic figures."

The guide is available on the company blog and covers cabinet materials, countertop and backsplash selection, flooring, layout complexity, labor, and regional conditions, along with a section answering common questions about kitchen remodeling costs.

Schooner Bay Builders is a family owned custom home builder and remodeler serving Southwest Florida. The company provides custom home building and remodeling services supported by in house estimating and dedicated project managers, with an emphasis on transparency and communication throughout each project.

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Schooner Bay Builders, LLC

Schooner Bay Builders is a Cape Coral, FL builder specializing in kitchen remodeling, bath remodeling, and new home construction across Southwest Florida, with a focus on trusted service, upgraded features, and lasting value.

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