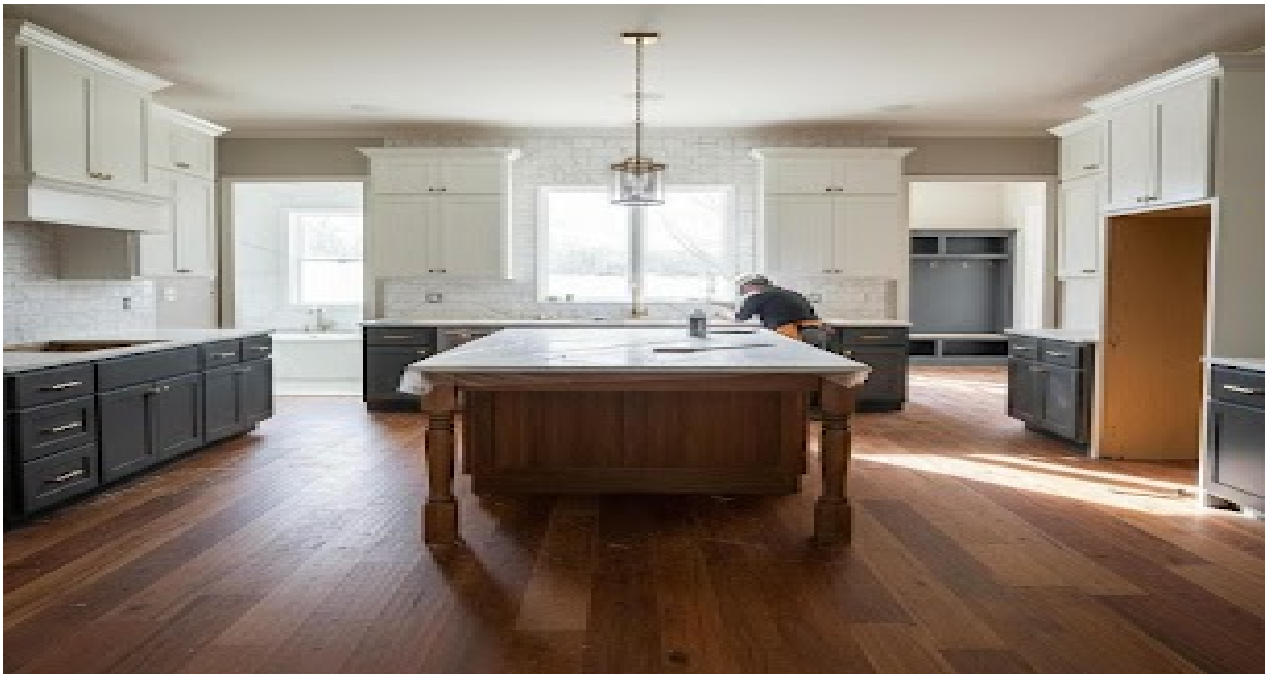


Kelco Cabinets Alerts Homeowners About Hidden Kitchen Cabinet Materials Affecting Quote Comparisons

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SPRINGFIELD, MO - June 22, 2026 -
Kelco Cabinets, a custom cabinetry company serving southwest Missouri, is alerting homeowners to a significant pattern emerging in the local remodeling market where dramatically different cabinet quotes often reflect hidden material differences rather than visible design elements. The company has observed that homeowners frequently compare kitchen cabinet estimates without understanding that substantial price variations typically stem from the cabinet box construction materials concealed behind identical-looking door fronts.

The pattern has become increasingly common as homeowners in the Springfield area receive quotes that can vary by thousands of dollars for seemingly similar kitchen cabinet projects. According to industry observations, the primary differentiator is often not the door style, finish, or hardware that customers can see, but rather the cabinet box material that remains hidden from view. Stock and budget cabinet lines commonly utilize particleboard for box construction, while custom cabinet manufacturers typically employ plywood. This critical distinction rarely receives adequate explanation during the initial quoting process, leaving homeowners to make cost comparisons without understanding the fundamental differences in what they are

purchasing.

The material variance between particleboard and plywood has significant implications for long-term cabinet performance and durability. Particleboard, while less expensive, presents several challenges in kitchen environments. The material is notably heavy, susceptible to moisture damage, and struggles to maintain screw retention over time. In contrast, plywood offers superior resistance to warping in humid kitchen conditions, maintains secure fastener holding power, and preserves structural integrity throughout years of daily use. While door fronts may appear identical between budget and custom options, the underlying box construction determines how well cabinets will perform over their lifetime.

"When homeowners see a quote that is significantly lower than others, they need to understand what is driving that price difference," stated Preston Kelsch, Founder of Kelco Cabinets. "In most cases, the lower price reflects particleboard box construction, which may look fine initially but often shows wear within a few years, especially around sink areas where moisture exposure is constant. Plywood construction costs more upfront but maintains its integrity in the challenging kitchen environment where heat, moisture, and daily use put constant stress on cabinet structures."

Homeowners can protect their investment by asking prospective cabinet contractors a straightforward question before accepting any quote: what material is used for the cabinet box construction? This simple inquiry immediately clarifies what each estimate includes and enables meaningful price comparisons. Understanding whether a quote includes particleboard or plywood box construction allows homeowners to evaluate the true value proposition of each option. For those seeking the best cabinets for a kitchen remodel, this kitchen cabinet materials guide serves as an essential reference point for making informed decisions.

Kelco Cabinets specializes in custom cabinet manufacturing for kitchens and laundry rooms throughout Springfield, Missouri and surrounding southwest Missouri communities. The company constructs all cabinetry using solid wood doors and plywood box construction, providing free in-home estimates and complimentary 3D renderings to help homeowners visualize their remodeling projects before making commitments.
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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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