



Rosemount
Kitchens



THE ESSENTIAL

KITCHEN RENOVATION

PLANNING GUIDE



TABLE OF CONTENTS

-  [Introduction](#)
- 1** [Key Components - Cabinets, Drawers and Storage](#)
- 2** [Key Components - Door Styles](#)
- 3** [Key Components - Benchtops](#)
- 4** [Key Components - Splashbacks](#)
- 5** [Key Components - Floors](#)
- 6** [Key Components - Appliances](#)
- 7** [Potential Traps](#)
- 8** [Our 'Start to Finish' Process](#)
- 9** [Your Kitchen Renovation Checklist](#)
-  [Conclusion](#)

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www.rosemountkitchens.com.au



MARK TONKIN
MANAGING DIRECTOR
ROSEMOUNT KITCHENS

INTRODUCTION

At [Rosemount Kitchens in Melbourne](#), we know more than most that the prospect of having a new kitchen designed and undertaking a kitchen renovation is often filled with trepidation and concern.

What material is best? How much should I spend? Which company should complete this important project?

The kitchen is the heart of the home, and a beautifully designed new kitchen will not only alter how your home looks and feels, but can dramatically change how your family lives together. It will be the canvas for many future memories and experiences.

The aim of this guide is to provide advice on the key stages of your new kitchen project. And it's such an important project.

Many people might only install one kitchen in a lifetime. [Kitchen renovations](#) done well can add up to \$100,000 to the value of a home.

You gather a pile of magazines, talk with as many people as you can, but you are ultimately at the mercy of the company and the people that you choose to design, create and build your new kitchen.

We've all heard "horror stories" from people who have received poor advice from so-called "experts". Or chosen companies based on the wrong information. Or received an incorrect measure of what was good or had "value", and what makes a good kitchen.

Good kitchen design and materials are reliant on great installation. I can't stress enough how choosing the right professionals is crucial to your experience and getting a positive end result.

Great companies thrive at this point. Poor companies create headaches and heartaches.

At Rosemount Kitchens we operate on the basis that we are the experts. We're the professionals, and it's our job to guide you through the process of design, manufacture, preparation and the installation of your new kitchen.

This guide is the accumulation of knowledge and experience I've gained from being involved in hundreds of successful projects and renovations.

I hope the information that follows assists you in making an informed decision – and getting the kitchen you've always dreamed of.



Good kitchen design and materials are reliant on great installation. I can't stress enough how choosing the right professionals is crucial to your experience and getting a positive end result.



KEY COMPONENTS

CABINETS, DRAWERS AND STORAGE

When it comes to choosing your kitchen cabinets there are a number of considerations.



WATCH THE VIDEO: Click the image above or go to [this link](#).

Did you know that much of the imported whiteboard material does not comply with Australian standards, and it doesn't survive the tough Australian weather conditions?

Low quality board is "invitingly inexpensive" short term, but will end up costing you more in the long run.

So my advice on this is pretty clear: always use 16mm HMR Whiteboard ... AUSTRALIAN MADE. Check out the video for more information. I also go into more detail on the benefits of quality materials in this blog post – [How To Spot The Best Kitchen Cabinets And Doors](#).



WATCH THE VIDEO: Click the image above or go to [this link](#).

DRAWERS, RUNNERS AND HINGES

There are many choices of 'hardware' when it comes to hinges and drawer runners.

[Blum](#) is the original creator of the full extension and soft close drawer systems.

They are German engineered and have a lifetime guarantee on the product. They will operate as well in their 20th year as they do on day one.

Poor quality drawer systems will save you money initially, but cause you problems in a relatively short space of time.

Never compromise on the most worked, most used and the most important components of your new kitchen - drawer runners and hinges.

Check out [this post](#) for more information about the advantages of great quality drawers and hinges.

WATCH THE VIDEO: Click the image or go to [this link](#).



Storage Accessories

There are many cheap and inferior storage accessories available.

But rather than talking about that any further, let's focus on quality fittings you'll never regret using.

Hafele Kessebohmer Range

This range is seen throughout our showrooms.

- [Hafele](#) are German engineered and designed, and have a lifetime guarantee on the product.
- They have a strong focus on corner storage solutions as well as fittings to maximise your pantry storage.
- Pull-out spice racks, detergent rack options and many other storage solutions ensure your new kitchen is super-functional for many years to come.



HAFELE: The One2Five Bin is a great example of today's recycling options.

Hafele One2Five Bins

We deal with our rubbish so differently than even a few years ago. Recycling and correct removal of rubbish is a daily part of our lives, and needs to be taken into account when you're designing a new kitchen.

Recycling bins these days come in many forms, shapes and sizes.

Make sure you choose quality solutions that won't get brittle, crack and breakdown.

More generally, [this post](#) – which features on making the most of the space in a small kitchen – will give you a good idea why it's important to focus on storage opportunities.

Australian Made

We use the most advanced hardware from around the world and combine that with Australian-made and manufactured board material.

That ensures your new kitchen will stand the test of time. It'll stand up to the Australian climate and you'll be supporting local manufacturing and businesses.



WATCH THE VIDEO: Click the image above or go to [this link](#).

KEY COMPONENTS

DOOR STYLES

How many homes are like showrooms? Not many - 99% of kitchens are well worn, well worked and tried and tested on a daily basis.

When it comes to choosing materials for your kitchen doors and panels, don't risk cheaper, less well-known brands. Choosing the major brands is vital.

Why? There are many cheap, imported materials that do not meet Australian standards and are not designed for Australian conditions.

Cheap imported Vinyl and Two Pack kitchens might appear beautiful when first installed, but they very quickly fail the true test of wear and tear in a normal family environment.

Kitchens are the heart of the home, and often bear the brunt of children growing up, entertaining family and friends and the 1001 other scenarios of family life.



At Rosemount we only deal with the big main Australian companies.

Those that have a consistency of product and colour. Those that not only produce quality materials, but are also on the cutting edge of research to produce new materials and new 'current' colours.

Companies like, [Polytec](#), [Laminex](#), [Albedor](#) and [Tesrol](#).

Which materials last longest?

There is so much opinion and confusion over which materials will last the longest. Which material will take the knocks and bumps of daily family life? In 5-10 years, which finish will look the best?

Firstly ... if you want a door with a profile, you can't use Colour board doors (most commonly described over the years as laminate).

For a door with a profile in the face you should consider Two Pack (painted), Thermo-laminated (vinyl), or timber.

However, if you'd like a plain-faced door then the world is your oyster - all material options are open to you.

Here's a quick summary of the most common door materials used.



DOOR STYLE: An example of Colour Board doors.

Colour Board

(commonly referred to as laminate or laminex)

This is the most commonly used material on kitchen doors.

It's a style that used to commonly be regarded as the "cheap option", but remarkable advances in the product have blown that perception out of the water.

The colours and finishes of this material are as varied and popular as the looks they create. Not to mention the exceptionally strong durability.

Whether it's a matt, silk or sheen finish, these doors

create a sleek, modern or even contemporary design concept that more than matches the look you would get with any other finish.

And from neutral colours through to European-style timber grains, you'll find the right colour palette to match any ideas you have.

It's very affordable and often allows you to spend more on the functionality of your kitchen.

This door style is mostly a 16mm thick door with a matching 1mm abs edge - an edge that makes it an exceptionally durable door style.

Main Benefits

- Large range of colours and finishes
- Durability
- Ease of cleaning
- Pricing

Best providers

- Polytec
- Laminex

Many companies are trying to bring "new brands" into the market, but they lack testing, manufacturing and retail support.



DOOR STYLE: An example of High Gloss Board doors.

High Gloss Board

Once the exclusive domain of Two Pack, this modern, clean, upmarket look is now available in a High Gloss Board.

Generally, the material is thicker than Colour board. High Gloss Board doors are usually 18mm thick, the same as Two Pack, and have a matching 1mm abs edge.

Some materials in this range also have the option of the abs edge being applied with a “laser edge bander”.

That retains the benefit of the edge itself, but reduces its visibility. It is simply an amazingly clean look, and we recommend using Createc by Polytec for this style.

High Gloss Board is fast becoming the most popular



If you love that glossy, modern, clean look, but are mindful of your overall spending, then this door is for you.

door style on the market.

It provides a sophisticated look - and ensures all your friends know you have a new, stunning-looking kitchen.

If you love that glossy, modern, clean look, but are mindful of your overall spending, then this door is for you.

ULTRAglaze by Polytec is another option to achieve this modern, high gloss look. It's an acrylic high gloss that has sleek seamless lines and provides the depth of a mirror finish.

Once again, it allows you to spend more money ensuring your kitchen operates as functionally as possible.

Main Benefits

- Durability – one of the most durable door material available.
- Affordability – slightly dearer than Colour board doors, but considerably cheaper than Two Pack.

Best Providers

- Polytec
- Laminex
- Albedor



DOOR STYLE: An example of Thermo-laminated doors.

Thermo-laminated (vinyl)

If you want a profiled door, but don't want to spend the extra money for a Two Pack, then the Thermo-laminated door is for you.

Some of the "satin or matt" finishes available in this door style will blow you away. The expansive range of profiles allows you to create a personalised look that will make your kitchen "yours".

Let's discuss this style in an honest and objective way.

Over the years this "vinyl" door style has been the biggest strain on manufacturer warranties.

Talk to enough people and you'll hear the refrain: "Vinyl peels. You're better using Two Pack". But someone else might say: "Two Pack chips. So use vinyl instead."

And your all of a sudden you're in two minds. So let me put your mind at ease.

First of all, Thermo-laminated doors (vinyl) are a quality door option. The manufacturers have “perfected the process”.

I’m a stickler for quality, and as you can tell from reading this guide, we only use great quality manufacturers.

And that philosophy is best stated when it comes to vinyl doors. Use good quality and you’ll be delighted. Choose one of the many cheap options and you’re lining yourself up for a world of disappointment and pain.

Both the quality of the vinyl sheeting and the glue is vital. There are also design elements to take into account regarding the exposure to heat - for example, from ovens, cooktops and rangehoods.

Main Benefits

- Affordable quality – a profiled door but less expensive than Two Pack.
- No visible edges – the vinyl wraps around to the back edge of the door creating a beautiful seamless look.

Best Providers

- Polytec
- Tesrol
- Albedor



DOOR STYLE: An example of Two Pack doors.

Two Pack Polyurethane (other names used - poly, emporite, painted)

This door style is as beautiful and varied in finish and looks as are the homes that its kitchens are installed in.

Of all the door material finishes, this gives you the widest range and can be completely personalised in colour and profile.

It doesn't matter if it's [French Provincial](#) or a [modern, sleek kitchen](#), or Gloss, Satin or Textured, the choice of look is virtually limitless.

To ensure the colour is exactly right, you can choose any colour off a paint chart.



Two Pack kitchens are high end and gorgeous. Some homes are described as contemporary or modern, whilst others are more traditional.

Two Pack kitchens are high end and gorgeous. Some homes are described as contemporary or modern, whilst others are more traditional.

A simple change from a Gloss finish to a Satin finish can turn your new kitchen design into a classic look.

When it comes to the perception of Two Pack kitchens chipping or scratching easily, it's important to use a quality painter who'll make sure the quality and thickness of the paint is good enough to stand up to wear and tear in a typical family home.

Truth be told, if you knocked any door material hard enough, you would damage it. The benefit of a Two Pack door is that a door or panel can easily be colour matched and repainted.

Main Benefits

- Finish – top end and gorgeous.
- Versatility – in look and the quality of the end result.

Best Providers

- Polytec – raw profile door



DOOR STYLE: An example of Timber doors.

Timber and Timber Veneer

After a bit of an hiatus, [this door style is starting to make a comeback.](#)

Put simply, you either love this look, or you don't. There's not a lot of middle ground.

Although full timber kitchens are not called for like days gone by, using timber for a feature wall, bench or or shelving can be a modern way to re-introduce timber into your design.

Timber Veneer is a great option for your kitchen design and other joinery in the home.

Veneer is a thin layer of real wood bonded to a substrate, which results in a smooth, flat surface.

It has the natural beauty of timber and comes in a large variety of species and colours.

Flat, plain faced doors are made out of timber veneer, while profiled doors are made out of solid timber - although you'll also find variations that have veneer centre panels.

With changing approaches to forest rejuvenation in recent years, this door style has also gone through a number of changes.

The timber used today is younger than it used to be, with a more responsible approach to the milling of the timber.

And that's had an effect on the colourings of some species of timber.

You should also be aware that the availability of timber grain laminates has reduced the use of timber material.



KEY COMPONENTS

BENCHTOPS

Should you go for a laminate or a solid surface benchtop?

And if it's solid surface, which one do you choose - Granite, Marble or Reconstituted stone? What about Corian, Stainless Steel or a Solid Timber Top?

[Kitchen benchtop choices](#) can seem bewildering, especially when each have different properties that can create a completely different look and feel.

I like to ask myself this question: "Once done, if I was to sell my home, what would the market expect to see? What will be understood and help me sell my home, and realise my investment?"

Here are my thoughts on each.



BENCHTOP STYLE: An example of a reconstituted stone benchtop.

Reconstituted Stone (man made)

In terms of sheer numbers, Reconstituted Stone is the most common bench material.

There are great quality brands like Caesarstone, Essa Stone, Quantum Quartz, Stone Italiana, Smart Stone, Silestone - to name just a few.

You've got to hand it to [Caesarstone](#). Just like Hoover and Band-Aid, their marketing has been so good it's become the generic term to describe this particular kind of bench material.

Main Benefits

- Superior quality – reconstituted stone is man-made, which means the poorer attributes you find in natural stone have been removed.
- Virtually non-porous – resistant to mould and mildew, stains and scratches.
- Colours – large range, from natural and earthy colours to marble lookalikes (there's sure to be one that's right for your style and design).

Visit the company websites to view the full colour ranges.

- [Caesarstone](#)
- [Essa Stone](#)
- [Quantum Quartz](#)
- [Stone Italiana](#)
- [Smart Stone](#)
- [Silestone](#)

And what about thickness? All colours come in at a minimum of 20mm, with the most popular being 40mm or 60mm.

You can theoretically make it whatever thickness you desire, as an edge build up is used with a mitred edge.



BENCHTOP STYLE: An example of a natural stone benchtop.

Natural Stone

Granite and Marble are two natural stones that are just beautiful, and have been used in kitchens for many years.

Admittedly, with the rise of reconstituted stone, they've taken a backseat - but there's still a place for natural stone.

[Marble such as Calacatta](#) or Carrara are often used for island benches because of the timeless grandeur and beauty.



BENCHTOP STYLE: An example of a granite benchtop.

Granite

Essentially, it comes down to the look you're after. Granite tops make a statement. They generally come in "heavier colours" than other options and create a distinctive look and feel.

Granite is one of the hardest of the natural stones. It's durable and has low porosity, which makes it easy to clean.



BENCHTOP STYLE: An example of a marble benchtop.

Marble

Now here's a talking point. If you've used Marble before, you'll be familiar with the conversation.

It looks amazing, but it's so hard to maintain. It stains and requires a lot of attention.

Marble looks great in a showroom, but in a family home used every day, it may not stay as pristine as the day it was installed.

While care is required over water marks and acidic foods, such as lemon juice, marble need only a little forethought and routine maintenance to prevent those kind of stains.

That's also the beauty of marble - small etches and marks can actually add character to the benchtop.

Thickness? It's the same as granite. All colours come in at a minimum of 20mm. Theoretically, you can make it as thick as you want. For example, to make it 60mm an edge build up is used with a mitred edge.

Prices of Marble and Granite vary greatly depending on the variety.

No two benchtops are the same and you get to choose the mix from basic aggregate to glass, quartz, pebbles and basalt. The choices are endless.

Concrete Benchtops

Concrete benchtops might still not be commonplace, but more and more people are talking about them.

They come in many different looks and can be moulded and sculptured to almost any shape and size.

Concrete can be polished, buffed or stained to any colour - or just sealed for that concrete look we have been used to.

No two benchtops are the same and you get to choose the mix from basic aggregate to glass, quartz, pebbles and basalt. The choices are endless.



BENCHTOP STYLE: An example of a laminate benchtops.

Laminate Benchtops

Laminate benchtops have come a very long way. Colours and edge details have been designed to reflect the current trends of Reconstituted Stone, but at a cheaper price point.

If you are working to a budget, but still want a great looking kitchen, then take some time looking at the available laminate colours and finishes.

If you're looking at installing a kitchen and laundry, consider Stone in your kitchen, but a laminate in your laundry.

Thickness? Laminate benchtops are generally 34mm thick, with some colours available in 40mm.



BENCHTOP STYLE: An example of a Corian benchtop.

Corian Benchtops

Corian is a resin based product, and has some of the best hygienic properties available in a bench finish.

The ability to polish out all joins makes Corian very clean and sleek - although some people find this finish a little “clinical”.

With Corian you can get a “moulded sink” that creates a seamless look. That’s a big attraction, and I’d say it’s definitely worth your while further investigating this material. The best way to do that is to discuss with a designer who’s experienced in seeing the pros and cons depending on the particular circumstances.

Thickness? The core material is 12mm thick, with the most common thicknesses used being 40mm and 60mm.



BENCHTOP STYLE: An example of a solid timber benchtop.

Solid Timber Benchtops

This is a look that creates a natural warmth. From American Oak, Tasmanian Oak and Blackwood to a variety of other species, timber benchtops create a look and feel.

Stainless Steel Benchtops

Stainless Steel is not used a great deal in domestic kitchens, but in the right home and with the correct design concepts, it looks amazing.

It's a look that you either like or don't, with not a lot in between. Again, there's an opportunity to have a "moulded sink" to create that ultimate seamless look.



KEY COMPONENTS

SPLASHBACKS

With so many [kitchen splashbacks](#) available, choosing the right one can seem overwhelming.

There are pros and cons to every material. The right choice often comes down to the style you want for your particular design.

A splashback can add real character or be a superb aesthetic addition to your kitchen design.

It's also important to know that there are legal requirements for cooktop distances from a splashback. A kitchen designer and check measurer will make sure these comply before the tradesmen start the installation.



SPLASHBACK STYLE: An example of a tiled splashback.

Tiles

Tiles have been a traditional choice of splashbacks for many years and are still a popular option today.

You can choose from a large range of colours, patterns, textures and sizes. Do you want to make a statement or blend in with the cabinetry?

Depending on the tile chosen, this can be an inexpensive option for a splashback.

The most common question we are asked about tile splashbacks regards cleaning the grout lines. Don't worry - simply using warm soapy water should keep them looking sparkly and new for many years.



SPLASHBACK STYLE: An example of a mirror splashback.

Glass or Mirror

Glass splashbacks have been popular for a long time, primarily because they are seamless and create a feeling of luxury.

Quite often, depending on the colour, their reflective qualities give a feeling of space and light, particularly when a mirror splashback is chosen.

Among the many benefits of a glass splashback:

- Hygienic
- No grout lines
- Affordable
- Unlimited colour choices
- Choose artwork or patterns
- Sophisticated, modern and sleek
- Mirror comes in traditional silver, smoked grey and bronzed

You can colour match your cabinetry for a seamless look or choose a bright colour for a bolder more striking look.

If you're looking for something unique, you can custom design a print or pattern for a one-of-a-kind splashback.

Reconstituted Stone, Solid Surface Stone and Natural Stone

Using the same product for the splashback as the benchtop gives a very streamlined, clean and modern look.

Bare in mind that the cooktop distance regulations mean there are some design limitations to consider.

Other Splashback Options

- Stainless steel
- Acrylic
- Pressed metal

There are pros and cons to each. If you're interested in finding out more, one of our designers would be delighted to discuss those with you.



KEY COMPONENTS

FLOORS

The process of laying your new flooring varies based on the type of flooring you are using.

The basic principle is for your new flooring to be laid, or the finished coat applied, as late as possible.

You don't want to be working on a newly finished floor during the kitchen installation – where it can be helped. This is when a floor is at its “softest”.

It's not uncommon to see kitchen renovations where the new design covers the existing “kitchen footprint” and the floor is not replaced.

This occurs when you may not have any more replacement floor tiles left, or there is a timber floor

that runs right through the home. If you were to start re-polishing in the kitchen, you would then have the expense of re-polishing the entire house.

Process for individual floor types:



FLOOR STYLE: An example of a floating timber floor.

Floating Timber Floor

A new floating timber floor is laid after the cabinets have been installed. The simple concept here is that if the cabinets sit on the new 'floating floor', it is no longer floating.

The cabinets are installed, then the floating floor is laid.

We leave the kickboards off so that the new flooring runs under the 'visual line' of the cabinets and the new kickboards sit on top of the new flooring.



FLOOR STYLE: An example of a solid timber floor.

Solid Timber Floor

A new solid timber floor is laid prior to the installation of the cabinets, but is not polished until the end. One variation is to have the rough sand completed prior to the installation.

The new floor is laid. The cabinets are installed, and the raw floor is sanded and polished as one of the last jobs to complete.

Once again, we fit the kickboards after the floor has been polished.



FLOOR STYLE: An example of a tiled floor.

Tiled Floor

There are two schools of thought on the laying of floor tiles. Before and After.

We recommend laying the floor tiles after the installation of the cabinets. If the flooring is laid first, an end panel may sit half over a grout line and won't look quite right.

Take it from me: the best visual outcome is for your floor tiles to be laid after the installation.

Also, when installing a new kitchen, the room is like a mini building site. It's always best to work on a raw floor, rather than a finished floor.



CONTEMPORARY STYLE: Appliances in this Wantirna kitchen were supplied by E&S Trading.

KEY COMPONENTS

APPLIANCES

When do I choose my appliances?

That's a bit like asking: "How long is a piece of string?"

The quick answer is that everyone is different. You may have a good knowledge of appliances, or have a friend who has showed you what they have just installed. You might also be a complete novice and totally unsure.

Whatever your circumstances, it makes sense to visit an appliance showroom and look at your options.

My advice? Get a kitchen designer to come to your home or apartment beforehand. They offer invaluable advice.

White Goods Shuffle

There are so many different appliance sizes available these days, and you need to know what design compromises, or benefits, each one will bring.

What's better for you and your home - a wall oven or underbench oven? Should it be a 600mm wide oven or a 750mm wide oven, A 600mm wide hot plate or an 800mm wide hot plate?

[Good kitchen designers](#) work with you to ensure your appliances will fit practically and spatially into your design.

At Rosemount we're not appliance experts and we don't try to be. But we do employ the best kitchen designers in the business, and their advice is worth its weight in gold.

When it comes to the makes and models of appliance, that's an area where you should also seek advice.

Appliance technology moves so fast these days, but an appliance expert will guide you through the potential minefield of types and sizes and other considerations you might not even be aware of.

Also, go to a kitchen showroom like ours to get a good idea of what might and might not work.

We have different types and various sizes of appliances in our showrooms, and they assist clients in visualising how appliances might work in their own new kitchens.

Where can you find great appliances?

Your local electrical dealer is a good place to start. But, again, find one where the staff are experienced and are willing to learn about your circumstances to make an educated recommendation.

We have a relationship with [E&S](#).

You'll find their appliances in our three [Melbourne kitchen showrooms](#). More importantly, their staff are what I would call “experienced appliance people”, and are better than most at helping customers make the right appliance choice.



POTENTIAL TRAPS

Getting your kitchen design correct and “current” is so important.

How do you maximise the design options - ensuring your new kitchen is right up to date in concept, design and look?

Getting help from an experienced kitchen designer is the best answer. This will directly affect your ability to realise your investment if and when you sell your home.

If you stay there “forever”, you know it will service your family’s needs for many years to come.

Using the correct quality materials is also essential. It’ll ensure your new kitchen looks great for many years.

WATCH THE VIDEO: Click the image or go to [this link](#).



But a bad design will always be a bad design, and poor quality materials won't stand the test of time.

Your design also needs to incorporate today's best storage systems and drawer systems.

Don't use poor quality tradesmen. The company you choose will have installers and tradesman, but be aware that not all tradesmen are created equal.

How skilled are they? How good are they at communicating with you - the client? How much do they care about you and your home?

Check out two blog posts I wrote recently going into some detail on [how to avoid using dodgy tradesmen](#) and [how to avoid a kitchen project nightmare](#).

At the very least, follow these two basic principles.

- Don't be afraid to ask the company or tradesman for names and numbers of past customers.
- Ask them for the names of the specific tradesmen who worked on those projects. (Many employ sub-contractors who work for different companies).

Quality Counts

At Rosemount, I take immense pride in the fact that the tradesmen we use are both suitably qualified and highly skilled.

Quite simply, they are some of the best tradesmen in the industry.

And they understand the sometimes peculiar and specific demands that come with kitchen projects.

That gives me, as a business owner, confidence a job will be done properly and on time.

Working in people's homes is a very different job to working on a building site.

The tradesmen have to care, and ours do.

They communicate clearly and professionally with clients. We are very proud of them and the way they conduct themselves.

Our clients are too.

Miscommunication and/or misunderstanding

The most common cause of problems with kitchens is created either through miscommunication or misunderstanding.

You are expecting one thing, but you get another. I can say something with one thing in my mind.

You hear it and have a different interpretation in your mind, and we agree on two different things.

I take immense pride in the fact that the tradesmen we use are both suitably qualified and highly skilled. Quite simply, they are some of the best tradesmen in the industry.

Different companies have different approaches to these kind of misunderstandings.

At Rosemount, we take every step and precaution to decrease the risk of this happening.

Detailed and documented processes are a big part of that.

These ensure everyone is quite literally on the same page. Communication is crystal clear.

It's not so much about us being right or you being right. It's about the job being done right.

And when it comes to your kitchen installation, there are no surprises.



OUR 'START TO FINISH' PROCESS

Everybody's starting point in this process is slightly different.

Some have had a new kitchen designed and installed before. Others are novices.

Some call in an "expert" immediately. Others do enough homework to get a bachelor's degree in kitchens.

In short, [we work with you at whatever stage you are at](#), and in the way that you are most comfortable.

It's your home. It's your kitchen. Yes, we are the experts and will advise you on many different aspects to ensure the process is seamless and enjoyable, but we respect the fact that this is your kitchen.

There are, however, common steps we lead you through to ensure you get the very best kitchen that you can get - with the very best end result.

How we do it:

1. How do clients find us?

It might be traditional advertising, through Google (possibly the reason you're now reading this) or perhaps they visited one of our two Melbourne showrooms.

Often, new customers have been referred by our many happy and satisfied previous customers.

2. You should visit a showroom

Visiting a showroom is one of the most important steps in this process. Some people ask if we come out to your home before they visit a showroom. We will, but don't recommend it.

By not getting a feel for the many aspects of kitchen design in a dedicated showroom, you miss out on one of the most vital parts of the process.

Benefits of visiting a showroom:

- You get to see the quality of our work
- You get to meet us to see if you like us and trust us
- You get to see current fittings and finishes

Kitchens have changed dramatically over the last few years, let alone the last 10-20 years - the probable age of the kitchen you want to renovate.

In our showrooms you can see the fantastic choice of:

- Different benchtops, splashbacks, door finishes and lighting options.
- Current finishes and design options

Our Nunawading showroom has nine kitchens on display, one European laundry, two bathroom vanities and one FEG robe system.

Our Oakleigh showroom is our newest location, and will soon have seven full display kitchens and a bathroom on show.

3. In-home designer appointment

This is without a doubt the most important part of the process. Every home is different. Every person is different.

If 10 people were to renovate the same house, there would be 10 different results.

And the home your are renovating is your home.

Our charge for the design appointment. We ask you to make us a cup of coffee.

But we don't charge a design fee. Why is that?

Well, you choose us, we don't choose you.

- We need to get the design perfect for you.
- We need to get the price somewhere near where you want it to be.
- And you need to feel comfortable with us.

Prior to this appointment, we'll tell you that we can definitely achieve two out of those three things.

But it can't be about what we say. It has to be about what we do.

Therefore, we don't charge a design fee.

Experience is Key

Our designers are some of the most professional and experienced designers in the industry.

A big part of the criteria for our designers is that they ask lots of questions and actually listen to what is important to you.

We will bring professional advice. We will bring everything to the table to ensure that you end up with the very best kitchen that not only reflects you, but also suits the style of your home.

4. Signing off on design and contract

We are not a high pressure selling based company.

Sure, we would love to have your business, but we believe that people buy when they are ready to buy.

We need to get the design right, the price right, and establish a proven process that you are comfortable with.

5. Technical or "check measure" appointment

When you decide to have a Rosemount kitchen, we ask one of our technical reps - commonly known in the industry as our "check measurer" - to call you and

organise a time to visit you to go through every detail of your new kitchen.

Things go wrong with kitchens because of misunderstandings and miscommunication.

And that's something we do everything to avoid at Rosemount, through crystal clear communication at all stages and a proven documented process that leaves no room for doubt.

That ensures the installation process brings no surprises, and is a pleasant formality.

The check measurer will meet with you in your home, go through every aspect in fine detail and will then prepare final working drawings.

6. Kitchen is ordered with our factory

Manufacturing times vary based on the door material.

Colour Board - 3-4 weeks from ordering

- High Gloss Board - 4 weeks from ordering
- Thermolaminated - 4-5 weeks from ordering
- 2 Pack 'flat' - 4-5 weeks from ordering
- 2 Pack 'profiled' - 5-6 weeks from ordering
- Timber - 4-6 weeks from ordering

7. Installation dates

Once the kitchen is ordered, we agree an installation date at your earliest convenience from when we have it ready.

8. Installation time

- A “standard installation” will normally take initially 2-4 days to have the cabinets installed.
- Stone benchtops are templated normally on day 2-3, and take a further 7-10 working days to fabricate.
- The electrician can fit off his work on or after day 4 of the installation
- 24 hours after the stonetops are on, the plumber can fit off and the glass splashbacks can be templated - the kitchen is usable at this point.
- Glass splashbacks take 7-10 working days to fabricate

Variations of this process are affected by structural work, and flooring etc.

KITCHEN RENOVATION CHECKLIST

So you've got to the point where you are ready to proceed with your kitchen renovation – what key points should you be aware of?

Remember, a project like this is significant in terms of not only investment, but also time and variables involved.

In short, it's hard work to make a kitchen renovation run smoothly. And it doesn't take much for the project to turn chaotic. It's vital to choose experts with a proven track record.

Put simply, using a kitchen company that specialises in design, installation and project management is an absolute must.

They should only use qualified tradesmen and – above all – be 100% committed to completing the project to the client's satisfaction.

Minimum criteria for your contractor

- Registered Building Practitioner – (DB-L licence)
- Qualified Tradespeople
- Uses Australian-made materials
- Uses best quality hardware
- Has industry expertise and proven track record

Your contractor's credentials

What do previous customers say? Check reviews on reputable sites like Google and productreview.com.au.

- Is the contractor registered? For any work over \$5,000, a builder must be registered. Rosemount Kitchens is a Registered Building Practitioner.
- Are the tradespeople experienced and/or registered? Electricians and plumbers must be registered. Tilers, painters and plasterers do not, so ask for references.

Determine your budget

It's such an important question – how much do you want to spend? Experienced kitchen designers and project managers will ensure the most effective use of your budget. By coming up with the right design and choosing the best materials, they'll also ensure your kitchen stands the test of time – saving you thousands in the long run.

With that in mind, consider the following points:

Preparation:

- Project Documentation
- Demolition (if necessary) and rubbish removal
- Preparation of site

Tradesmen:

- Carpenter
- Electrician
- Plumber
- Plasterer
- Tiler
- Floorer

Kitchen components:

- Appliances
- Benchtops
- Cabinetry
- Doors
- Flooring
- Lighting
- Splashbacks



WATCH THE VIDEO: Click the image above or go to [this link](#).

CONCLUSION

So you've got to the point where you are ready to proceed with your kitchen renovation - what key points should you be aware of?

I always remind our kitchen clients that a project like this is significant in terms of not only investment, but also time and the sheer number of variables involved.

In short, it's hard work to make a kitchen renovation run smoothly. And it doesn't take much for the project to turn chaotic.

That's why it is vital to choose experts with a proven track record.

Put simply, using a kitchen company that specialises in design, installation and project management is

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Minimum Criteria for your kitchen contractor:

- Registered Building Practitioner – (DB-L licence)
- Qualified Tradespeople
- Use Australian-made materials
- Use best quality hardware
- Has industry expertise and proven track record

At Rosemount we consider a job completed only when the client is 100% satisfied.

It's a philosophy that works for us and our clients.

Check Your Contractor's Credentials

What do previous customers say? Check reviews on reputable sites like Google and productreview.com.au.

Is the contractor registered? For any work over \$5,000, a builder has to be registered. Rosemount Kitchens is a Registered Building Practitioner.

Are the tradespeople experienced and/or registered? Electricians and plumbers must be registered. Although tilers, painters and plasterers do not, you can ask for references.

Determine Your Budget

It's such an important question - how much do you want to spend?

Experienced kitchen designers and project managers will help you get the best value for money.

They'll ensure the most effective use of your budget during the renovation.

By coming up with the right design and choosing the best materials, they'll also ensure your kitchen stands the test of time. And that will save you thousands in the long run.

With that in mind, it's good to have a clear idea of the components and investment involved in your project.

The following checklist will help in that process:

Preparation:

- Project Documentation
- Demolition (if necessary) and rubbish removal
- Preparation of site

Tradesmen:

- Carpenter
- Electrician
- Plumber
- Plasterer
- Tiler
- FLOORER

Kitchen Components:

- Appliances
- Benchtops
- Cabinetry
- Doors
- Flooring
- Lighting
- Splashbacks

I hope you've enjoyed this guide and found it useful.

If you're thinking about a kitchen project or renovation, Rosemount Kitchens would love to help.

Feel free to visit our showrooms in [Essendon](#), [Nunawading](#) and [Oakleigh](#).

Book a [free no-obligation consultation](#) with one of our kitchen designers.

See what our customers say on sites like [Google](#) and [Product Review](#).

If you have any questions, call us on 1300 476 736.

Happy renovating!

READY TO GET STARTED?

CALL US

1300 476 736

VISIT A SHOWROOM



Oakleigh

2 Kingston Town Cl
Oakleigh
VIC 3166

Essendon

20 Napier St
Essendon
VIC 3040

Nunawading

358 Whitehorse Rd
Nunawading
VIC 3131

BOOK A CONSULTATION

Click the button above to book your free consultation with an experienced kitchen designer

www.rosemountkitchens.com.au

REVIEWS

WHAT OUR CUSTOMERS SAY

See more reviews at our website and on sites like productreview.com.au and Google

“Rosemount made this an easy and mostly seamless undertaking for us and the results are significantly better than we anticipated. To say we are delighted with our new kitchen is a gross understatement. It is just sensational

HOWARD AND SUE, CAULFIELD

“We did not once regret our decision. We can't thank Rosemount enough for their superb work, project management and ensuring that a complete kitchen re-build was performed with as little disruption as possible to our household

ALASDAIR, NORTHCOTE

“Words cannot express how grateful I am to Rosemount for making my long time dream come true and being a joy to deal with. My needs and wants were listened to and I felt like they cared about me and I was not just another customer

SAJEE, OAKLEIGH SOUTH

“One of the big differences to other companies we saw was they really listened to what was important to us. We get people asking us all the time who did our kitchen and we are proud to say Rosemount Kitchens

GARY AND LINDA, RICHMOND

beautiful KITCHENS

DESIGNED FOR LIFE



Oakleigh
2 Kingston Town Cl
Oakleigh
VIC 3166

Essendon
20 Napier St
Essendon
VIC 3040

Nunawading
358 Whitehorse Rd
Nunawading
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Phone: **1300 476 736**

Website: www.rosemountkitchens.com.au