



50+ INSPIRING KITCHEN DESIGN IDEAS

LOCAL INTERIOR DESIGNERS SHARE THEIR BEST ADVICE FOR REVAMPING WHAT MANY CONSIDER TO BE THE MOST IMPORTANT ROOM IN THE HOUSE

BY TERI EVANS

COASTAL KITCHEN, DESIGNED BY CLIVE

SPLASH, A MARBLE WATERFALL ISLAND, AND CUSTOM PEN-

DANT LIGHTING

THE DESIGNERS

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COOKING UP A PLAN

Whether remodeling the kitchen or starting from scratch, the process can be as overwhelming as it is exciting. We turned to the experts for their best advice on what to consider first. Here are three questions to ask before taking the first step.

HOW WILL YOU USE THE KITCHEN ON A DAILY BASIS?

It's easy to be dazzled by beautiful dream kitchens, but designers say you also have to focus on how it will work for you and best suit your lifestyle. For example, if you love to cook and entertain in the kitchen, it's important to plan for that. "Having extra seating or a second island, room to add sous chefs, or friends having a glass of wine while you prepare dinner is something to consider," says Lisa Kahn of Lisa

Kahn Designs. And when you envision cooking dinner, think about how much room you'll need to move around in the work zones of a kitchen. "Spacing between the island and perimeter needs to be larger than it used to, as we are now sharing our cooking with others," says Faith Fix of Freestyle Interiors. "Outlet placement should also be well thought out in the backsplash and islands." Make sure you account for the amount of space needed between counters as well. "Too much [space] and the travel distance with a hot pot, for example, is too far," adds Jenny Provost of K2 Design Group. "Too little space and two people cannot work back to back." Four feet is a safe default, she says, but it really depends on the unique functions of each kitchen.



