



The Kitchen Cabinet Painting Process

- 1. PREP:** Your appliances, countertops, floors and walls will be covered in protective paper, drop cloths and plastic. All door and drawer fronts will be removed and finished offsite in our shop. There is a slight chance that wall paint can peel when the plastic and tape is removed. Should this occur, we will touch up the affected surfaces. (Please make touch up paint available to our team.) All doors and drawers will be removed and finished offsite at our spray booth.
 - 2. SANDING:** We clean doors, drawers and cabinet frames and lightly sand using two different sand paper grits, in preparation for a smooth finish and proper paint adhesion. A Festool HEP certified vacuum is connected to the sanders at all times to prevent dust dispersion. We recommend that you **TURN OFF HEAT OR A/C AND DO NOT OPEN WINDOWS DURING THE SANDING PROCESS**, as this will recirculate the dust and minimize the effectiveness of our vacuums.
 - 3. PRIMER:** We apply a stain blocking bonding primer tinted 70% of the final color by high volume commercial sprayer.
 - 4. PAINT:** We apply coats of fine finish paint in the color of your choice. We use professional cabinet paint — these products cannot be found at your local hardware store — they are made specifically for cabinets. We use industrial filtered air extraction units brought onsite to remove dust from the air. Your project will have less odor and dust than a standard interior painting project. The finish will resemble a factory applied finish and is durable, cures fast and wears well.
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- LABOR:** Labor makes up the majority of a cabinet painting project's cost. The time required to transform a kitchen can range from 50-180+ hours. **Typically the cabinet painting process takes 1½ - 2 weeks. You will not have access to your kitchen during the onsite painting period.**
 - SKILL:** In addition to the time required to perform our painting and refinishing process, we also know it takes unparalleled skill — people who are experts in the application of high-end, fine finishes. When your cabinets are completed, you will know that you have partnered with highly skilled craftspeople who are passionate about what they are doing. We spray all of your cabinet surfaces to get the factory finish that isn't achievable with a brush or roller.
 - PAINT SHEEN:** Unless otherwise requested, we apply a satin sheen; this is the most popular and most commonly used.



COLOR TRENDS

Historically, white has been the most popular kitchen cabinet color.

Popular whites include:

- **Cool Whites:** Chantilly Lace, Extra White, Decorator White, and Snowbound
- **Warm Whites:** White Dove, Chantilly Lace, Simply White, Alabaster, and Pure White

While white remains a classic, it is increasingly paired with other more neutral colors or wood stains rather than being the sole choice. For an easy way to incorporate a second hue, the kitchen island remains the top spot to accent, with perimeter cabinets following close behind.

Trending kitchen cabinet colors include warm and earthy neutrals like these:

- **Warm Neutrals:** Soft taupes, grays, warm beiges and mushroom tones create a calming atmosphere.
- **Earthy Greens:** Sage green, olive green and forest green are popular choices for a nature-inspired look.
- **Moody Blues:** Deep blues like navy and midnight blue offer a sophisticated, bold look.

Torn between a couple of different colors? We can order your preferred color selections in Samplize® peel-and-stick, oversized paint samples to "try on" colors before making your final selection. Visit samplize.com for details.

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Kitchen Cabinet Painting — Considerations

LIGHTING

The type and amount of light in your kitchen has a SIGNIFICANT impact on how your paint color will look. Paint color WILL APPEAR TO CHANGE depending on the time of day, season, natural or artificial light sources, and the direction of the light.

In the morning, sunlight is warmer because it's lower on the horizon, and gives a yellowish cast to a space. As the day progresses to midday, sunlight develops a cool, bluish cast. Remember you're not really seeing the paint color that's on the cabinets, you're seeing the color of the light that's reflected off the cabinets. To ensure confidence in your color choice, we recommend Samplicize® peel and stick oversized paint samples.

WOOD

The beauty of wood cabinetry comes from the natural qualities of wood itself, with variations of grain. The textures of those natural grain patterns often remain visible with paint finishes and should be accepted as natural characteristics when selecting painted cabinetry. Wood is a product of nature, therefore slight variations in color, grain and texture are to be expected.

Deeply grained wood cabinets, like oak, have the special distinction of having a very prominent wood grain. Most wood cabinets (maple, pine, cherry) don't have this issue. With deeply grained oak, the pattern may still be seen (although subtle) after painting.

Wooden doors can expand and contract with changes in temperature and humidity. We recommend pairing MDF center panels with maple frames for new door and drawer fronts to avoid movement at door joints or angles, which can result in hairline cracks or "witness lines." This cracking occurs when the door panel shrinks and breaks the paint layer — these are not defects but are a normal part of the wood adjusting to temperature and humidity changes.

To ensure that your painted cabinets dry correctly, evenly and are fully cured, the temperature and humidity inside your home must be regulated. The temperature should be maintained at 68°F and no more than 70°F in summer.



Warmer vs. cooler light impacts how colors appear.



Deeply grained oak texture can remain visible after painting.



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