

KSA'S TOP 7 HINTS TO ENSURE YOU STAY SANE DURING YOUR KITCHEN INSTALLATION

A lot of the complaints we receive from consumers are due to rising stress levels and breakdowns in communication between the parties. Don't be fooled. Having a new kitchen installed is a stressful, long, untidy and inconvenient process and not everyone can afford to move into a hotel for the duration. Here are our top seven tips to help you keep your sanity during the process:

- 1** Pack up your kitchen meticulously. Use clearly labelled boxes and bubble wrap. This will ensure that when you come to unpack you know where everything should go and damages are minimal. Remember not to pack away the basic essentials you will need while the kitchen is being installed.
- 2** Set up a temporary kitchen in a convenient space where you will not be falling over yourselves. You are still going to need to cook and clean while you have no kitchen. Ensure it is somewhere where you can still operate your kettle, toaster, microwave and some sort of hot plate. You should also allow for the washing of dirty dishes. Camping wash stands can come in very useful.
- 3** Ensure your site is ready for the kitchen company – all electrics and plumbing should be done, flooring complete and the old kitchen removed.
- 4** Be prepared for at least four weeks without a kitchen.

5 Avoid making changes once the installation has begun. This will end up increasing the length of time the kitchen company is on site. Remember every change you make goes to the back of the kitchen companies' manufacturing queue and can add up to another week to your time line.

6 We know it is tempting to watch the kitchen company once they are on the job but don't. Kitchens are custom made and will need to be adapted on site to deal with unlevel floors and walls and unexpected issues that may arise on site. To you it may seem like they are 'cutting up and changing' your kitchen on site but the installers are trained to make these necessary adaptations once the goods are out of the factory.

7 Judge your kitchen on the finished product. The kitchen company will ask you to snag the kitchen before they hand over to you. This is when you should be looking for anything you are not happy with not before. Remember that when dealing with a KSA member you get a one year guarantee from date of installation should anything go wrong after you have signed off the kitchen.

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