



What every Savannahian needs to know about...

Controlling kitchen and bath remodel costs

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Owner and designer, Cabinet Wishes

QUALIFICATIONS

Lavelly is a Registered Interior Designer in Georgia and is certified in kitchen and bath through NKBA.

Q How do you help homeowners understand costs of kitchen and bath remodels?

As a kitchen and bath designer, I consider it my responsibility to educate my clients in their decision-making process. You can give clients a kitchen that meets their needs and is attractive without breaking the bank if they are open to considering options.

Q Can you give examples?

Frequently, people don't even know what the most or least expensive options are.

- Standard overlay is least expensive; then full overlay; and inset is about 20 percent more.
- Oak is less expensive than maple; maple is less than cherry and exotics.
- Frameless cabinetry is less expensive than framed, but offers more accessible space.

• Stained cabinets are less than painted, and painted ones are less than painted with distressing.

• A galley kitchen footprint is the least expensive yet most functional followed by the "L" shape with an island, then a "U" shape being most costly because it is expensive to turn corners.

Q Are there some compromises that shouldn't be made?

The cabinet quality and amount of cabinet accessorizing should not be skimped. I always ask clients, "How many times do you want to remodel your kitchen or bath in your lifetime?" And cabinet accessories save money because fewer cabinets are needed when they are well organized.

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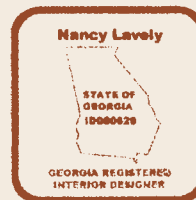


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