The step-by-step guide to installing your new kitchen right

This brochure is your guide to preparing and installing your new kitchen yourself. Inside you’ll find tips and ideas, clear steps to follow and the tools you’ll need to use. Use this guide along with your assembly instructions to make sure your kitchen is installed correctly.

Would you like us to help with that?
IKEA kitchens are designed to be installed by you, but we’re here to help as much as you’d like along the way. This kitchen installation guide shows you how to do it yourself, step by step. Or check out the different installation services we offer, all performed by our skillful certified kitchen installers. For more details see the kitchen section of IKEA.co.uk or ikea.ie or contact your local IKEA store.

Before you begin
Take a look at this brochure to see what stages are involved in putting in your new kitchen and organise what tools you’ll need.

Once you’ve received your kitchen, double-check that all the parts have arrived. A good way to do this is by checking what packages you have at home against the order list. You should only dismantle your old kitchen when you have all your new parts and appliances.

Your kitchen parts and worktop should be stored indoors, with normal room temperature and humidity. It’s helpful if you arrange your cabinets in the order you will be installing them. Use your packing list and IKEA home planner drawing to help you.

Remove your old kitchen making sure that electric, water and gas is off before you begin. Use a qualified professional to disconnect and connect your gas, water and electricity.

Once your kitchen arrives, check off your delivery to see that everything is in order.
The materials and tools you’ll need

The tools you’ll need depend on how much of your kitchen you are installing yourself. See your assembly instructions to see what tools you’ll need to use. It’s a good idea to wear safety glasses when using power tools.

**GOOD TO KNOW**
Plaster, wood or concrete? Because there are many different types of wall, fixing hardware is not supplied with your cabinets. Please look at our **FIXA** range of tools or most hardware or home improvement stores stock appropriate fixing hardware and can help you choose the right sort for your walls.
Prepare your room

Once you have removed your old kitchen, prepare your room by making sure your walls and floor are even, and your walls are suitable for supporting your new kitchen. Now is also the time to prime and paint your walls, put in tiles or change your flooring.

Marking cabinet positions

Draw a layout of your new kitchen directly on the wall. Check that everything fits with the measurements from your plan and your electricity, water, gas and ventilation connections are where you want them. Also mark where to fasten your new kitchen’s suspension rails.

Prepare your space by making sure your corners are even and your walls and floor are straight. Use your try square for the corners and a spirit level for the walls and floor. Make sure you note the highest point of the floor and where the corners are not 90 degrees.

Check your wall is strong enough to hang your suspension rail and cabinets. Depending on your wall material, it’s best to install your rail onto a stud or a support beam. An electronic stud finder can be helpful.

Make sure you leave 82 cm between the highest point of your floor and the bottom of your base suspension rail.

Double-check your plumbing is where you want it and fits with your layout plan.
Set your suspension rail

With the new IKEA kitchen system, your cabinets can be hung directly onto a suspension rail making them easier to install and easier to adjust. It’s important to make sure your suspension rail is straight and level, and to secure it with the right screw type for your wall.

Marking the right height for your suspension rail

Your base suspension rail needs to be hung 82 cm above your floor’s highest point (measure to the bottom of the rail). You should allow 60 cm between the bottom of your wall cabinets and the top of your worktop when measuring for your upper rail.

Fasten your rails, base rail first. Make sure you’ve found suitable points in the wall where the rails can be fastened and that the rails are level before drilling.

If your wall is uneven use distances between the rail and the wall to make sure the rail is straight.

Use a spirit level to check that each rail is level.

Take a break. With your kitchen layout drawn and your suspension rails up, you’ve completed the preparation stage for your kitchen.

Remember to leave space between your base cabinets for a dishwasher.
Install your cabinets

In most kitchens it’s best to install your wall cabinets first. This way you have room to move without base cabinets in the way. One exception is if you are installing a single line kitchen with a high cabinet at one end. In this case install the high cabinet first.

Before you begin, mark down all plumbing and other utilities. Some cabinets have ready-made openings for plumbing and utilities, but you can use a jigsaw to create your own openings if needed. Do this before fitting the cabinet in place. Be aware where you place openings can affect how you can arrange drawers in a cabinet.

Assemble all wall cabinet frames according to the assembly instructions. Wait until later before fitting drawers, doors and internal fittings.

Hang the corner cabinet first and secure by tightening the screws. Hang the remaining cabinets and connect them with the included screws. Wait to tighten the screws until the base cabinets are in place and you can ensure alignment.

Assemble all base cabinets according to the assembly instructions. Make sure to have the legs attached in the order the cabinets will be fitted.

Hang your base cabinets starting in the corner. Hang each following cabinet in the same way. If you’re installing a corner carousel now is the time to do it.

Cabinet legs connecting two cabinets can be used to support both cabinets while you’re installing. Remember to use the distance ring included with the legs.

Make sure the correct base cabinet is aligned with your plumbing.

Check that each cabinet is aligned with the previous cabinet by adjusting the legs.

If you are using a high cabinet, fit with a cover panel first.
Filler pieces

Filler pieces are used between your cabinets and walls for a streamlined appearance, and to ensure there is enough room to fully open doors and drawers. They are especially useful if your walls are not perfectly straight.

Check the wall with your spirit level to see if it is straight. If the wall is even, measure between the wall and the cabinet and mark this distance at the top and bottom of the filler piece.

If the wall is not level and flat, the filler piece must be cut to fit to the wall’s shape. To do this, you’ll need a filler piece, measuring tape, small block of wood about 2.5-3.5 cm thick and pencil. Cut the filler piece so it’s the same height as the cabinet. Place the edge of the filler piece against the wall. Hold the block of wood flat against the wall with the pencil against it. Keep them pressed against the wall as you slide them down the length of the filler piece. Now you have traced the shape of the wall onto the filler piece. Cut along your trace line.

Place the newly cut edge of the filler piece against the wall (it should fit perfectly). Mark the edge of the cabinet on the top and bottom of the filler piece. Draw a straight line from these points and cut.

To ensure the filler piece stays in place, first fasten a support strip to the wall. Drill holes in the cabinet for the screws you’ll use to fasten the cabinet and filler piece together. Put the filler piece into place. Put screws through the holes you have drilled. When all your filler pieces are in, caulk around each one with silicone for an airtight seal.

If you are going to install a high cabinet, don’t make final adjustments or fully tighten the screws until you have installed all the other cabinets as well.

GOOD TO KNOW
If you’re installing a kitchen island, it must be secured to the floor using UTBY legs or by building a plinth frame. Fasten the plinth frame to both the floor and the cabinets. When attaching the frame to the floor be aware of amenities like floor heating or plumbing already installed.
Install your worktop, sink, lighting and appliances.

With your cabinet frames in, it’s time to install your worktop, sink, lighting and appliances. Check that your worktop is the correct size before fitting it in place. Now is also the time if you need to customise your worktop for a sink or hob (see your assembly instructions for help).

Once your worktop is in, you’re ready to get your water, gas, lighting and appliances connected. All water, gas and electricity connections must be done by qualified professionals according to valid local safety regulations.

All electrical connections must be made by a qualified electrician.

Use a circular saw and G clamps to hold a straight-edge to your pre-cut worktop when you cut to customise the size. It’s helpful to use a pair of sawhorses to help you.

Mark a spot for the sink by laying the worktop in place. Trace the inside of the base cabinet onto the underside of the worktop. This helps you align your sink. Turn your worktop over and trace the outline of your sink onto masking tape.

Use a jigsaw to cut out space for your sink. It’s helpful to drill a hole on the inside corners of your outline before cutting, so you can make a cleaner cut.

To prevent moisture from penetrating the worktop apply polyurethane silicone across the sawn edges.

Install sink into the worktop according to the assembly instructions.

Secure your worktop in place according to the assembly instructions.
Customise your worktop for your hob in the same fashion as for your sink. See your hob’s assembly instructions for help.

Install the extractor hood. Our extractor hoods can be installed in two ways: either ducted to the outside, called extraction, or used in recirculation mode fitted with a charcoal filter. Each installation option is described in the assembly instructions that come with the product.

Saw the hole either in the back panel or in the top of the cabinet. See the assembly instructions. For safety and functionality reasons, follow precise measurements in the instructions for installation that come with the extractor hood/fan.

GOOD TO KNOW:
Because of moisture and steam, it’s important to fit a moisture barrier under the worktop where you have a dishwasher. All IKEA dishwashers come with a protection strip. For other appliances, use FIXA diffusion barriers for extra protection.
Install your shelves, drawers, doors, knobs and handles.

Now your cabinet frames, worktops and appliances are in, fit your drawer slides into your cabinets. Remember that the slides for inner drawers and standard drawers are fitted in different ways.

(see your assembly instructions for help). Once the slides are in, fit in your drawers before your doors and shelves. Finish up by adding knobs and handles as well as any other internal solutions (like wire baskets).

Fasten your drawer slides, starting with your outer drawers. Outer drawer slides should be attached to the outer row of holes in your cabinet.

Once your outer drawer slides are in, fit your inner drawer slides. The inner drawers slides are fitted to the inner row of holes in your cabinet.

Assemble your drawers with the help of the assembly instructions.

Attach the hinges for your doors.

Fit your drawers and doors to your cabinets.

Align your doors to the correct height and width by adjusting the screws on the hinge plate.

If you’re fitting a plinth now is the time to attach it. Follow the assembly instructions for help.

If you are fitting a ventilation grill, place the grill between two pieces of plinth.
You’re done! Congratulations on your new kitchen!

Caring for your cabinets
Clean the doors, cabinet interiors and wood surfaces with a soft, damp cloth. Only use cleaning products intended for these materials. Do not use products that contain ammonia, alcohol, bleach or abrasives. Rinse with clean water, then dry with a clean, dry cloth. Make sure to clean up spills quickly.

Keep your sink sparkling
After each use, wipe the sink clean with a cloth or sponge damped in water or a non-abrasive detergent, if necessary. Rinse the bowl with water and then wipe the sink with a dry cloth. Avoid scouring-powder, steel wool, or hard objects which can scratch the stainless steel surface. The damp surface can be discoloured if substances containing iron, such as steel wool, nails or gravel, are allowed to remain on it. Discolouration is caused by the foreign material.

Long-lasting worktops
Keep your worktop in top condition by cleaning spills quickly with water and a mild detergent. Be sure to keep them as dry as possible after use. For wood and solid wood worktops use BEHANGLA wood treatment oil. The oil protects the wood from marks, stains and cracks, and prevents water from penetrating the surface.

YOU’RE DONE!
Time to step back and admire your new kitchen – and admire yourself for saving so much money by assembling and installing it yourself! With a little care and maintenance your new IKEA kitchen will keep looking its best for many years to come.
Our services, for you.

Sometimes a little help is all you need to turn a dream into reality. This is why we offer a wide range of services to help you along the way. Maybe you just need a little help, or perhaps someone to do the whole job for you. Either way we’re here to help, and we’re happy to put together a service package that’s just right for you. Of course, the more you do yourself, the lower the price will be. And the more you ask us to do for you, the more you can sit back and relax!

Planning service
One of our approved planning representatives can come to you and plan your new kitchen with you in the comfort of your own home. During the appointment they will take an accurate measurement of the kitchen area and discuss with you how to optimise the space so that they can plan the perfect kitchen to suit your everyday needs. Please ask one of our co-workers in the Kitchen Department for details on price and how to arrange an appointment.

Picking with Delivery Service
With our Picking with Delivery Service, we collect the products on your shopping list from the Self-Serve Furniture Area and deliver everything to your home.

Delivery Service
Our kitchens are designed and packaged so that you can take them home yourself. However, if you prefer, we can deliver your purchases directly to your home. For white goods you have the option of having your existing goods taken away for reuse/recycling when your new goods are delivered.

Installation service
Our fully co-ordinated kitchen installation service can save you valuable time, especially when it comes to the trickier jobs like fitting sinks, taps, worktops and appliances. Our kitchen installers uphold the highest standards of trust, quality and craftsmanship. They are committed to getting the job done properly and quickly. Our installation service has received the FIRA Gold Installation Certification and includes a free 5-year guarantee on workmanship and installation. Therefore you can feel confident that our kitchen will be installed to the highest industry standards.

Finance
If you’ve found the solutions to create your dream kitchen, but need some help spreading the cost, we can offer you a range of finance options to help you make the dream a reality.