

HOUSE CARPENTERS

Economical kitchen renovations with powerful paybacks

By Steven J. Bishopric

Renovating your kitchen can sometimes be a huge project costing tens of thousands of dollars. But, it also can include far less expensive improvements. For instance, adding recessed or track lighting can economically improve functionality and aesthetics. Flooring options run from sheet vinyl to wood. **The House Carpenters**, a division of The Bishopric Companies, makes these suggestions:

Today, **wood flooring** is vastly improved over what was available only a few years ago. Wood products can be used in the kitchen today because they are engineered at the factory with applied finishes that let you integrate the floor with other rooms in the house – and they are well warranted.

Ceramic and porcelain floor tile is available that looks like stone, but is less costly than natural stone and requires less upkeep.

Reasonably priced, upgraded **sinks and faucets** add inexpensive quality to a kitchen, as well as greater functionality and form. Today's U.S. made products have the flair of European design and lower costs.

Perhaps, just **painting the ceiling and walls** is all that is needed for a fresh new feel.

Kitchen offices are growing in popularity. They become a place to organize homemaking and homework, and they can be built with a variety of electronic components that fit into the cabinetry.

Mudrooms are excellent drop-off points to protect the home from the elements. They also serve as excellent storage areas. In many cases, they accommodate laundry washers and dryers; and if they are located conveniently to the kitchen, overflow pantry cabinets can be added. In many cases, the room can be configured within the available footprint of your home.

Custom cabinets can be designed specifically to your use, or they can be either resurfaced with new doors and drawer fronts or simply repainted. Adding new doors and drawers can dramatically change your kitchen's look and utility.

But, you also can afford custom cabinets on a budget.

The Bishopric Companies owns and operates Chestnut Bay Cabinet Makers. It not only custom builds cabinets for its own building and remodeling divisions, but also for individual consumers who can visit our showroom on Rt. 28 in East Falmouth.

Steven J. Bishopric, a master carpenter for four decades, is founder of the Bishopric Companies which includes Steven J. Bishopric Builders, the House Carpenters and Chestnut Bay Cabinets.
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