



HAMPTON BAY CABINETS GUIDE (pg. 1)

5 Steps to Your New Cabinets

1 - Find Your Style

A good designer can help you discover it, but ultimately the question of your own personal style can only be answered by you. You can start by collecting designs that appeal to you. These can be clippings from catalogs and magazines or printed from sources online. You'll probably notice that there are common elements in the designs that you're attracted to. Light stain, dark stain, or basic white. Contemporary, Traditional, Transitional or something difficult to define – American Classics kitchen cabinetry offers the most popular door styles and on-trend finishes that will help you establish your style.

Pick your door style and finish



[Cambria Harvest](#)



[Hampton Cognac](#)



[Hampton Natural
Hickory](#)



[Hampton Medium Oak](#)



[Hampton Satin White](#)



[Unfinished Oak](#)



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2 - Define and Design

Thinking about the way you live and imagining how you want to use your new kitchen are the keys to developing a good design. You will need to consider things such as: how many people will be cooking? Do we need to accommodate children or pets? Will our kitchen become the main gathering place? Do we plan to entertain large groups often in the kitchen? All of these questions will ultimately have a bearing in how your kitchen is laid out to maximize its functionality.

Any discussion on kitchen design includes basic kitchen shapes and the efficiency of the work triangle. Understanding these basics can be helpful, but also realize that your kitchen solution may not fit exactly into one of these conventions. The points of the conventional work triangle are: Refrigerator–sink–range, with the legs of the triangle representing the shortest walking distance between those work areas. Ideally, the three legs of the work triangle would total 26' or less, with no single leg of the triangle shorter than 4' nor longer than 9'.

There are many real-world variations from the basic kitchen shapes used throughout the industry. The point is to understand the concept of the work triangle and the benefits of each basic layout, yet remain open to creative solutions.

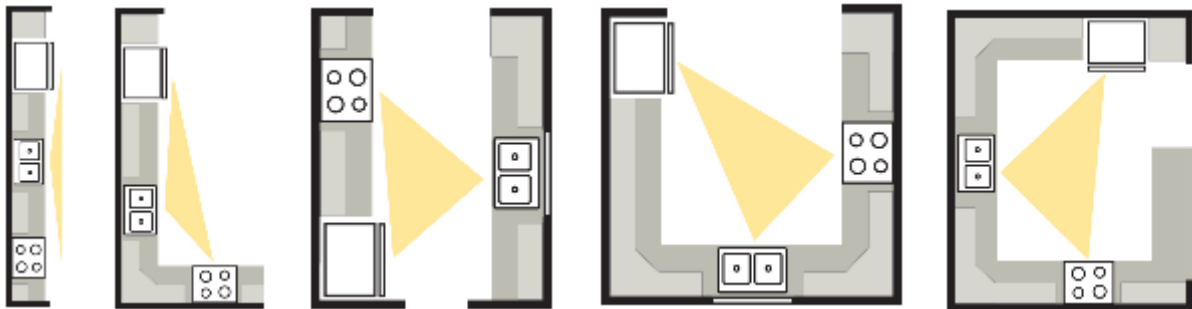
- **STRAIGHT RUN:** a kitchen that is found along a single wall in a straight run is referred to as a straight run, or Pullman-style layout. This layout generally includes a small number of cabinets efficiently used within a small space, such as a condo, studio or apartment.
- **I-SHAPE:** an I-shape kitchen is found along two joined walls in an I-shaped layout. Typically, this layout will have a point of the triangle on each wall and may or may not include an island. This layout is very common in homes with large open floor plans.
- **GALLEY:** the galley kitchen shape is when two walls are parallel to each other with cabinets on both sides. Perhaps the most efficient kitchen design, as the distance to each point of the work triangle is relatively short. However, this layout is difficult for more than one cook to be working in the kitchen at any given time.



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- **U-SHAPE:** a u-shaped kitchen is shaped just like it sounds, a U. This layout typically has a point of the work triangle on each of the three walls.
- **G-SHAPE:** the final basic kitchen design is a G-shaped kitchen. Similar to a U-shaped kitchen, except it includes a peninsula or detached run of cabinets from the wall, commonly functioning as a breakfast bar area.

When space allows, the addition of an island and peninsula can add countertop, storage and seating, control traffic and divide a large kitchen into more functional work areas.



In addition, the same cabinet layout will have a different look depending on the height of the wall cabinets you select. Within a standard 8' or 9' ceiling, you have the option to utilize 30", 36", or 42" high wall cabinets. While the 30" high wall cabinets may offer some savings, you are sacrificing some wasted storage space, whereas the 42" high cabinets will help to maximize all storage opportunities.

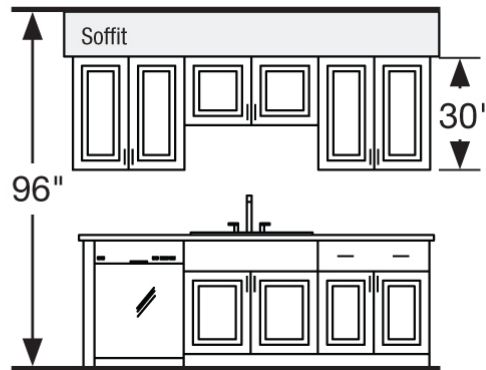
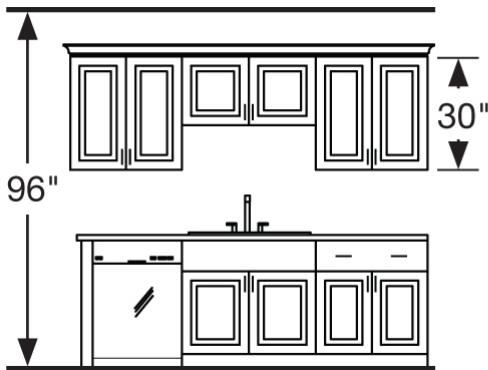
You may even decide to stack short height cabinets (such as wall bridge cabinets) above your standard 30" high wall cabinets to gain additional storage and create an interesting look.

So unleash your creative genius, and utilize our extensive offerings through American Classics cabinetry to create your dream kitchen. Whether you want to do-it-yourself, or seek the assistance of a kitchen designer, American Classics has your solution.

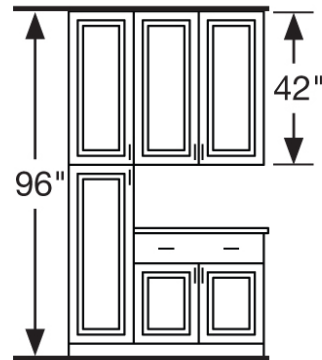
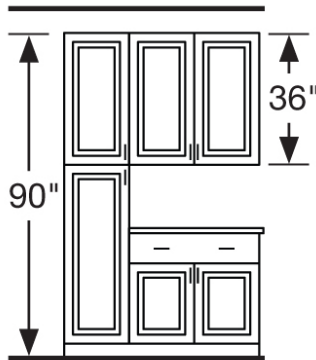
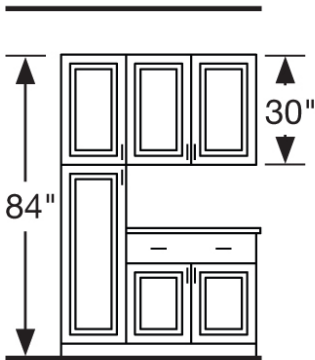


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Typical layouts with 8-foot ceilings



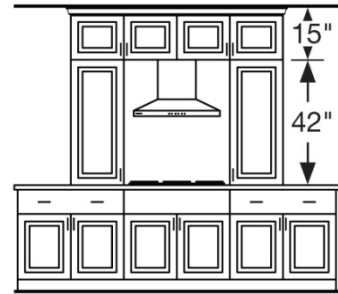
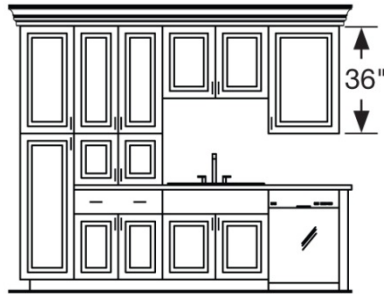
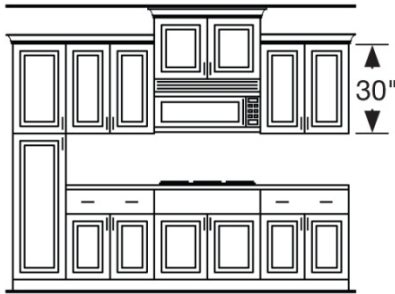
Maximize storage with taller walls and pantries



Achieve different looks



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3 - Measuring

After defining your kitchen space, the next step is measuring.

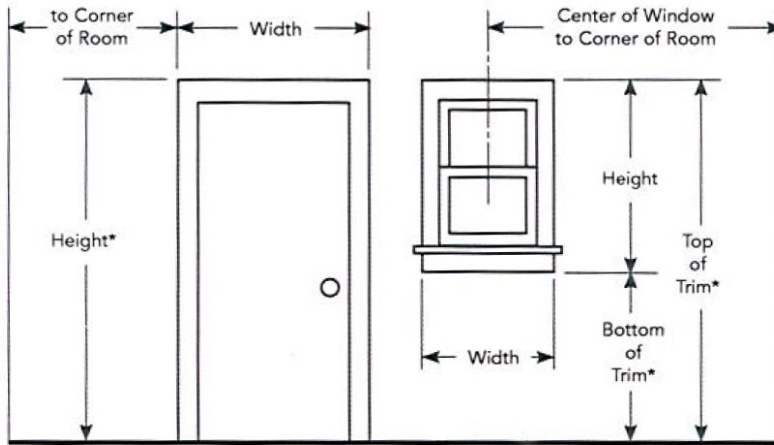
- 1- Make a freehand drawing of your room and write your measurements on it, in inches. Include all dimensions, including windows, doors and offsets.
- 2- Make your drawing as if the room had no cabinets in it. Measure to the actual drywall and do not include baseboard or existing cabinets. (Existing islands or peninsulas that define the shape of the room should be included.)
- 3- Measure all walls, even walls that do not contain cabinets.
Getting all of the dimensions of a room allows the designer the full scope of possibilities for the plan.
- 4- Double check your measurements. The overall length of a wall should equal the sum of its parts.
- 5- The ceiling height should be noted on your draft. This measurement is from the finished floor to the finished ceiling.
- 6- The width and height of windows and doors should be measured to the outside of the trim.
Door dimensions should include the measurement from the outside of the trim to the corner of the room. Window dimensions should include the distance from the finished floor, as well as the measurement from the center line to the corner of the room.

Important:

- Be sure to mark the exact location of sink, drains, gas hook up, light fixtures, electrical outlets and switches.
- Note the distance from the floor for electrical outlets, electrical switches and wall mounted light fixtures.
- Mark the dimensions of all ducts, vents or radiators.
- Indicate the direction of the door swing.



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Important: Windows and doors should be measured from the outside edges of the trim.

* Measure from Finished Floor



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4 – Get Your Cabinets

American Classics kitchen cabinetry is available nationally. With options to take your cabinetry home today from our in-stock selection, or place a special order to arrive within two weeks to your store, there's no need to wait any longer. From ordering to installation, your new kitchen awaits, in as little as a month. See our Store Locator to find a retailer near you.

[Find Your Local Store](#)

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5- Install Cabinets

[See All Cabinets Installation Guides On The Following Pages.](#)