

Tips for getting your kitchen measurements right

The layout and size of your room determine your kitchen design options and it is important to go for designs that make the most of your space.

Shape of space, dimensions and angles

The shape and size of the room determine your options when planning the kitchen. This applies to the layout planning, the storage space options as well as the ergonomics of your main working areas. The smaller the room, the better thought out the planning must be to make the best use of the available space and to comply with the recommended minimum distances.

The basis for correct kitchen measurement are the exact room dimensions, i.e. the length of all walls that are relevant for planning the kitchen. This can often sound simpler than it actually is. After all, this is exactly where the greatest accuracy is required, because every error affects all subsequent steps.

All structural features, such as chimneys, recesses, projections, bay windows, roof slopes, etc., should also be measured precisely.

You can reliably determine the room height by measuring the ceiling height at several points.

Do not forget to check whether all corners of the room are actually at right angles (i.e. exactly 90°). If this is not the case, the kitchen must be adapted to the deviations. This is a common source of error, as visual impressions are often deceptive. You will find more information and professional tips at the end of this document.



Doors & windows

The next step is to measure the existing doors and windows. In addition to size, other points must also be taken into account here:

The area around doors should be generously dimensioned so that you can carry bulky objects such as trays into other rooms without obstruction. If you like classic swing doors, the swing area must also be taken into account when they are opened into the room. If the kitchen is quite small, you could consider having the door open outwards (i.e. towards the hallway) to gain valuable space. Sliding or folding doors are other space-saving alternatives.

Windows are particularly important for kitchen planning because they bring daylight into the kitchen. That's why they should be integrated into the lighting concept. Measure the height and width of the window and window sill. If you plan a work area below the window, it must not be more than the same height as the window sill. Your kitchen furnishings must be positioned so that the window can still be opened without obstruction.

Radiators

Radiators must not be obstructed, as this could cause a build-up of heat. Allow at least 30 centimetres of space between the radiator and surrounding furniture to enable air to circulate freely around the radiator. This will ensure an efficient heating effect while consuming minimal energy.



Electrical and water connections, sockets and light switches

All existing installation objects should be sketched and dimensioned when measuring the kitchen. These can be taken into account when planning the kitchen later, or it should be determined which objects can be relocated or reused.

When building a new home or flat, you have more freedom when it comes to design. It makes sense here to make an appointment with your kitchen studio during the planning phase. This way, you can determine the required connections before the electrical and plumbing work begins.

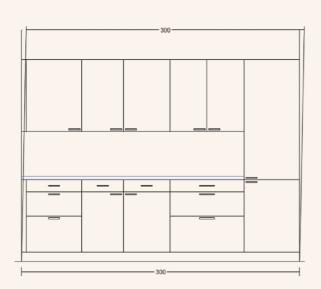
In existing buildings with some possibilities for alteration, electrical cables can be laid without problems to a certain extent and kitchen planning depends primarily on the position of fresh water and waste water connections.

Caution: For safety reasons, each major electrical appliance must be connected to a separate socket - multiple sockets are not permitted. For the cooker or the stand-alone hob, you need a three-phase AC connection installed only by an electrician.



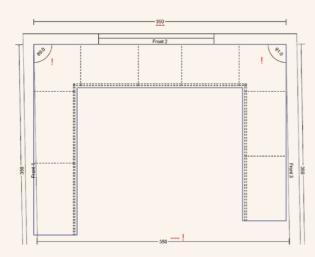
Professional tips: room dimensions and angles

Even when planning a kitchen unit that consists only of the wall measurement from right to left, mistakes can occur, for example, if one or both side walls are not perpendicular:



In the example opposite (somewhat exaggerated for better visualisation) both the left and the right wall run away 5cm to the right in height. Since both sides have the same angle, you can place your measuring device at any point in the room and will always get the same room measurement of 300cm. Nevertheless, it's impossible to accommodate a kitchen unit of 300cm width without equalising the dimensions. In this example, the kitchen unit was reduced to 295cm and a 5cm wide concealing facia strip was incorporated on the left-hand side in the upper and lower cupboard area.

A similar phenomenon can be found when planning the layout for U-shaped kitchens with two enclosed room corners.



The wall dimension of the window side is 350cm at any point in the room. This often leads to the assumption that the room angles

must be exactly 90°. However, the example shows that this does not have to be the case. The left solid angle is 89°, while the right

solid angle is 91°. Here, it creates a parallelogram, mathematically. The opposite sides are parallel, but the adjacent angles are not identical and also by no means 90°.



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