

## **An All New Look with Refaced Cabinets**

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**August, 2000**

The fabulous kitchen remodel that creates a whole new space, with new state-of-the-art appliances is wonderful. But not everyone is ready to commit the amount of money, time and disruption that such a process requires. Consider your cabinets. If the surfaces are faded, worn or peeling, if doors are sagging or if they simply are in a color or material you don't like, you can make a huge difference in your kitchen's look by simply refacing your kitchen cabinets.

Just look at all the area your kitchen cabinets occupy. Changing them is going to change the whole look of your kitchen.

The cost of removing the old cabinets and replacing them with new ones will vary depending on the size of the job, the style you're going for, and the material used. But the project can easily cost \$20,000 or more.

Often the existing cabinets are fine. Just the surfaces and doors look old, after receiving years of wear-and-tear and exposure to sunlight, kitchen grease and the like. And if a different look is all that you want, cabinet refacing accomplishes 100 percent of the goal.

Homeowners turn to refacing because it saves the two most valuable assets we have: time and money. The job, from the first measurements to the installation of the last drawer pull, usually varies depending on the company and the size of the project. The average time your kitchen is host to sawdust and workmen is about three to five days.

The typical refacing process involves removing the doors and drawers. Then the craftsman bond genuine hardwood or laminate to match their new door selection to all exposed cabinet surfaces. Next, the new doors and drawer heads are installed with the customers choice of hinging systems, decorative hardware, and new mouldings used at the top of the wall cabinets. Some companies will custom cut the doors to fit the kitchen yielding a much better look while other companies may use stock doors and colors.

Dated dark or muddy colored kitchens can become the latest in Shaker or Country French designs. Refacing also allows the client to accessorize the cabinet interiors to include any upgrade found in new cabinetry such as tilt trays, rollout shelves, hide-away trash & recycling systems, etc.

Different materials can be used to reface your kitchen. One of the Delaware Valley's more established company's, *Let's Face It, Inc.* typically uses over twenty genuine hardwoods offered in a large variety of stains that include many hot new glaze finishes. *Let's Face It, Inc.* allows clients to choose some of the latest trends

in cabinetry by opting for unique hardwoods such as Canadian Red Birch or quarter sawn White Oak, rather than electing for traditional types. Other materials that can be used for refacing are laminates and rigid thermal foil doors (RTF). Typically these materials do not have the warmth of real wood, but offer the client a less expensive alternative yielding an average of 10% in savings. *Let's Face It, Inc.* also allows great flexibility in allowing their clients to add additional cabinets that will blend with their existing kitchen, solid surface countertops, ceramic tile backsplashes, lighting packages, and more.

David Cerami, President of the Bucks/Mont Chapter of *The National Association of the Remodeling Industry* (NARI) and *Let's Face It, Inc.* recommends the following to clients prior to a professional consult: *a)* construct a wish list of the top ten things that they would like to incorporate in their new plan, *b)* save pictures of kitchens that strike you from the many magazines that are available, *c)* consider how long you will be living in your home, *d)* consider your financial situation to determine how much you want to ultimately invest in the project. With the wealth of products and services today, consumers have more choices than ever. For the most part, no two kitchens are alike and therefore a kitchen can be planned around someone's budget, wish list, or a combination of the both. A professional's job is to get the client the most items on their wish list in the most economical way.

Typically refacing allows client's flexibility to choose from an *a-la-carte* menu of items and services rather than a full blown replacement in which a homeowner is committed to the entire job. With a complete replacement, yielding an average cost of @ \$27,675.00 in the Delaware Valley area, refacing is a viable option. The typical refacing costs varies greatly on the type of refacing selected, the size of the kitchen, and the peripherals that are added. Refacing can start for as little as \$4500.00 and up.

For a free fact booklet which will explore the many options from planning a complete new kitchen to refacing and refinishing call 1-800-795-1131 or log on to [www.letsfaceit.org](http://www.letsfaceit.org) for your copy.