

“MERRI’S KITCHEN CORNER”

What you need to know before you meet with your Kitchen Designer

My experience indicates that to achieve the maximum results from the first meeting with your designer, you should come prepared. Below are some key points to make your meeting more productive. (If you are not totally prepared, don't worry... come on in, I'd still love to see you.)

- **Bring in your floor plan** - If you do not have a floor plan, you can create one. For helpful hints on how to measure your kitchen simply look to our website http://www.islandwidekitchensandbaths.com/Learning_Center. This gives the designer information for space planning and ideas to be discussed before a design begins.
- **A picture is worth a thousand words** - Bring in pictures from magazines, catalogues, web sites, books, and photos you have taken of kitchens that you loved. Pictures give the designer insight into your style, preferences, likes/dislikes, and your family's needs.
- **Appliance information is important** - Your designer will need to know what appliances you plan on having in your new kitchen. At this point, I like to discuss with my clients options that are available for appliances and whether they are keeping certain existing appliances or buying new. For example, do they want a single/double oven or a range? Are they interested in, or does space allow for a 36", 48", or other size refrigerator/freezer? In addition there are a multitude of specialty appliances such as wine coolers, warming drawers, steam ovens, coffee/espresso machines, and more.
- **Defining your scope of work** - In many instances we determine that simply moving a window, eliminating a wall, or changing a door can make for a dramatic benefit to the final kitchen design. In addition to aiding in the design, this will also benefit in a precise scheduling of the job.

I like to lead my customers through a comprehensive interview to interpret their likes, wants, and desires to create as fully functional and aesthetically pleasing kitchen as their budget allows.

Meredith Weiss is the senior designer at Island Wide Kitchens and Baths located at 250 East Jericho Turnpike in Huntington Station, NY. She can be reached at 631-425-1600.