


NEW HOMES & CONDOS


Try your best to create an area where guests can sit and enjoy the space.

Renovate your kitchen with entertaining in mind



EVELYN ESHUN

DECORATING WITH STYLE

You've invited some friends and family to your place for the holidays, guess where the party will end up? In your kitchen of course! Have you ever noticed that no matter how small your kitchen is, this is where the group gathers and where the party happens?

Size is not the prerequisite for a great 'kitchen party', good design is. Before you renovate your kitchen, you must seriously determine how you will use your kitchen, anticipate how you would like to use your kitchen. The functionality of this space will not only enhance your lifestyle, but your investment value in your home.

Ask yourself some questions:

- How often will you be entertaining?
- Will you serve the food or will guests serve themselves?
- Do you cook? Or do you hire caterers for parties?
- How many people will cook in your kitchen daily?
- Will you serve in the kitchen or elsewhere in the home?

Refrigeration: The ability of

guests to help themselves out of a beverage/ bar area is a good way of keeping them out of the main serving area. It also gives the host better access to the area without having to cross the main traffic area where the food is.

Warming Drawers: A luxurious must for keeping food warm and fresh.

Double dishwashers: Though this feature is often considered for religious reasons, it can serve a great purpose for all kitchens — especially if your secondary dishwasher is a drawer unit which can be used specifically for glasses.

Entertainment: Adding speakers and a television in the kitchen allows this area to entertain your guests. You could have home videos or music videos playing in the background as the party happens.

Appliance Zones: Areas such as bar, coffee making, cooking, frying, hotplates, filtered water and icemaking should be considered. If you have the space for it, you can add an open grill at an island in order to cook and

chat at the same time.

Venting: Invest in a high quality vent hood which will perform quietly and efficiently. The last thing you want is to compete with a loud venting unit while speaking or playing great music.

Countertops: Try your best to create an area where guests can sit at a surface and enjoy the space. An island does not have to be huge. I was recently at a bistro in New York City which had a bar-height counter which was only about 16 inches wide. People managed to claim a small area to enjoy a sandwich and drink on both sides of the honed marble-topped surface.

Observe this season how the ergonomics of your kitchen performs for you. There is a natural ebb and flow to every space which can be improved, take cue from what you observe and make design notes for your next renovation.

— photos by Amanda Calabrese

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eieihome for the holidays! Renovation wish-list



GRAHAM CAVERLY

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Instead of running around and hoping you find that one perfect gift, give your loved one something that lasts a lifetime: a home renovation! What better place to find a trusted professional than with eieihome?

New Floors

Nothing says 'I love you' like ripping up ancient shag carpet and replacing it with classic hardwood or tile. Reinvent your home giving it a more modern and sleek feel.

Surround Sound System

Whether renovating a basement into a man-cave complete with a stunning LCD television, or a projector, it's imperative that you find just the right contractor. eieihome makes it easy to find an electrician who specializes in not

only basement renovations, but the installation of high-quality sound systems that will have your sweetheart swooning.

Shower/Bath Upgrade

One of the most important rooms in any house is the bathroom, and it might just be time to update yours. From new tile, countertops and of course a brand new steam-shower, you can definitely show your spouse that they've made the 'nice' list.

Room Conversion

Your spare room or recently vacated child's bedroom can be converted into a new space that both you and your spouse can enjoy. Interior decorators can work wonders, and can bring a whole new world to life in just one little room. From an indoor greenhouse with beautiful flowers to a

stunning painting studio, eieihome and their list of professionals can help you realise your renovation dreams.

CCTV Surveillance System

There is nothing in this world more important to you than the safety of your family, and eieihome is proud to be a supporter of security specialists who want nothing more than to help keep you safe. Installing a Closed-Circuit Surveillance System—or CCTV—means you can rest easy.

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