

Research what it takes to become a certified kitchen designer. Learn about education requirements, job duties, average wages and job outlook to find out if this is the career for you.

!!!Career Information At a Glance

Kitchen designers work with clients to design unique kitchens and implement that design. Read the following chart to learn more about a kitchen designer's skills and how much you could earn.

	__Degree Required__		Associate's or bachelor's
	__Education Field of Study__		Interior design
	__Training Required__		Add text here...
	__Key Skills__		Creativity, CAD software, NKBA Associate Kitchen Designer
	__Certification Options__		Designer
	__Job Growth (2012–2022)__		13% "(for all interior designers)"
	__Average Salary (YEAR)__		\$54,200 "(for all interior designers)"

"Source: *U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics"

!!What Does a Certified Kitchen Designer Do?

As a kitchen designer, you will work with clients to design a kitchen that meets their needs and then implement this design with a team of workers. As you design the kitchen space, you'll be considering both the ease in use and the client's aesthetic choices. When the design is finished and approved, you'll make the necessary arrangements for the actual implementation of the design, from hiring contractors to ordering appliances. You could work for a design firm, in which you'll be assigned certain projects, or you could start your own company, which requires finding your own clients.

!!What Education Do I Need?

Kitchen design involves technical knowledge and a creative mind, so an associate or bachelor's degree in an interior design subject is often needed for this career. Programs usually offer technical and creative courses. You may take classes in computer-aided design (CAD) and classes in art or drawing.

!!How Do I Become Certified?

The National Kitchen and Bath Association (NKBA) offers multiple certification options for kitchen designers, including the Associate Kitchen and Bath Designer (AKBD) and the Certified Kitchen Designer (CKD) designations. The AKBD designation is awarded if you have at least two years of interior design experience with one year spent working in the kitchen and bath industry and complete 30

hours of NKBA coursework or NKBA-approved classes in a college program. The candidate must also submit two professional affidavits before taking the AKBD examination. The CKD designation is awarded after seven years of experience, 60 education hours, two client references, two professional affidavits and a passing score on the CKD exam ("www.nkba.org").

!!What Salary Can I Expect to Earn?

According to the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS), interior designers, a group that includes kitchen designers, made an average annual wage of \$54,200 as of May 2013 ("www.bls.gov"). The BLS also reported the 10th-90th percentile range earned a salary of \$26,490-\$89,060.