



Design Tips and Ideas  
from

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## This Newsletter is About Removing A Kitchen Wall.

There are many good reasons to remove a wall of your kitchen but there are also consequences that should not be ignored when considering this kind of renovation.

1. The main drawback to taking out a wall is that opportunities for using that wall for upper cabinet storage are lost...if an island is placed between the two spaces then storage is possible in lower cabinets. A careful assessment of alternative storage in the spaces will determine if this is a manageable trade off or not.



2. Walls provide sound barriers between spaces. We often take out a wall to "connect" the cook in the kitchen to another area and while this is great for the cook it also has an impact on noise levels in both areas.

The sound of a dishwasher churning away, or the grinding and gurgling of an espresso machine in the kitchen while you try to watch T.V. in an adjoining family room may be hard to ignore.

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It is also true that an explosive movie soundtrack from the family room along with the kitchen noises may be overwhelming to the cook working to get a meal together in the kitchen.

If only a section of the wall is removed.. a solid "barn" or pocket door can close off the opening as needed and reduce sound transfer.

3. The loss of visual privacy from the kitchen, with a view of used dishes and meal prep. mess from the adjoining space, is considered a drawback by many.

It might not be as critical opening up a dining room to a kitchen when guests can relax in a living room that is not connected after dinner and they will not see dirty dishes.

I personally would not feel relaxed after a meal sitting looking at a kitchen mess from my family or living room.

There are construction implications and considerable costs added to the renovation when removing a wall ( especially if it is load bearing) to consider also... and permits to be obtained ...that will be explored in the next newsletter..... to be continued.

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**Contact me if you have renovation questions. I can be reached at [sheila@ahomeyoulovedesigns.com](mailto:sheila@ahomeyoulovedesigns.com)**

I offer a complimentary phone session to help homeowners to explore where and how to begin their home transformation.

You can benefit from our **Renovation Strategy Session** to get answers to your construction questions and insight into what will be involved in your project.

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Thank you for reading.

Sheila Doris

