

lake norman

WOMAN

S OF WOMEN

EIGHT *habits* OF
HIGHLY
SUCCESSFUL
Women
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& LEARNING
IN 2021

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*Mother
may I?*

LKNW'S TRIBUTE TO MOMS





➔ **NOW THAT WE HAVE** been vaccinated, my husband Tom and I went out to dinner for the first time in 395 days. We felt naughty and giddy at the same time. It was delightful!

Truth be told, our kitchen has never had the work out that it has had over the past year. My mother was an incredible cook and took eight years of cooking classes. We, on the other hand, are those people who love to go out and cook in only four times per week. Like everyone else, we have Door Dashed, picked up, made big meals, and truly gotten the most out of our kitchen this past year. Fortunately, we had done an update in 2019 that paid off **BIG TIME** in 2020 and now 2021.

As the year went on, my firm received more and more calls for kitchen renovations. Everyone was using their home to its best ability and many have found they want more. There is now a building boom combined with a global supply chain issue. Appliances are on backorder. The microchips used in many items such as refrigerators and microwaves are on a global shortage; the ships coming out of Asia are way behind, and many furniture vendors have closed for a few weeks while they try and get foam for furniture due to a shortage in foam production in Texas.

Goodness, what do we do?

eating *in*



Here is my suggestion: **PLAN**

The joy of redoing a space is that you can plan out exactly what you want and how you want to use the space. The process gets overwhelming only when you are trying to beat a deadline. Let's just take the deadline off the table and make great decisions. Put together the plan, get everything on order, and then go on with your lives while you wait. Consider it Christmas shopping in January and then not having to deal with it for the rest of the year. Sweet relief!

Steps to **PREPARING** your renovation:

- Write down a list of what works in your kitchen and what does not.
- Consider how you and your family move around the space. Is it easy to move about? Are items conveniently located?
- Make a list of appliances that need to be replaced.
- Collect photos of kitchens you like and a few you do not.
- Consider rooms that are beside the kitchen—will there be changes made to those rooms that will affect choices you make in your new kitchen? Put those changes into the plan now.
- Decide on a budget. When a professional designer asks you for a budget, we want to make sure that we can meet your goals, that your budget is realistic, and that you understand the investment. **DO NOT USE HGTV** as a guide. As a former designer with HGTV, you are not getting the clear picture of pricing. Many materials are gratis from vendors and many contractors offer their services for free. The numbers they give are **NOT** realistic. A professional will be able to help guide your budget, but you must have an idea of how much you want to spend to even start a conversation.

Starr Miller
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Allied ASID, IDS, CAPS



Our resident home-design expert, Starr Miller, has garnered local and national acclaim with more than 30 industry honors. An alumnus of the prestigious Parsons School of Design in New York, Starr has built a strong following as the principal of her sought-after design firm, located in Cornelius, NC.

She feels the composition of a space must originate with the client's unique perspective. Along with that perspective she brings together her team's collaboration, design skills and refined processes in a way which results in truly captivating homes for her clients.

StarrMiller Interior Design specializes in full-service interior design projects.

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Start planning! The best money you can spend in your home is in the kitchen! But be patient. The world will catch up. 🍷