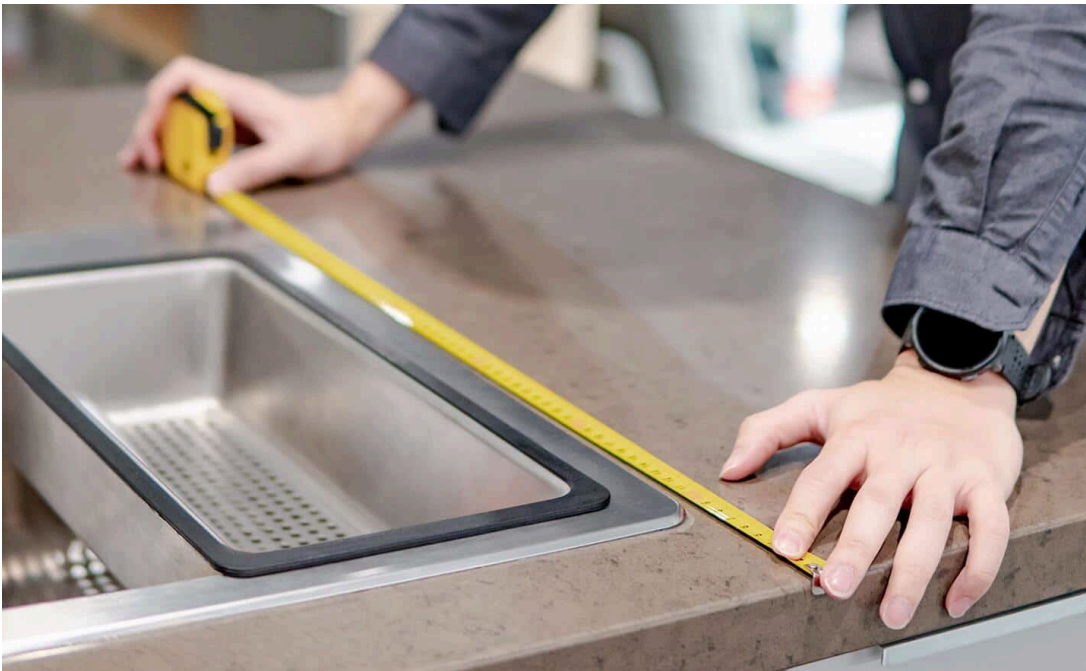


Buying a kitchen sink depends on more than just your budget. You should also consider your kitchen's layout, your style preferences and lifestyle. This guide explains the sink materials and configurations available, so you can be confident you're buying a kitchen sink that's the perfect balance of form and function.

With so many options available, there is a sink for every style and budget. It's important to determine how often and for which purposes you will use the sink. Then determine the kitchen sink size you need, and the setup you need, to accommodate the sink plumbing and accessories. Finally, you can decide what is the best kitchen sink material for you in terms of maintenance, durability and affordability.

What Are Standard Kitchen Sink Sizes?



Choosing a kitchen sink for your home includes learning how kitchen sink sizes are measured. The length of a sink is the distance between the left and right edges. The width is measured from the back edge, by the faucet, to the front edge. The depth is the height from the deepest part of the bowl, usually the middle, up to where it's level with the top of the sink.

You also need to know the various kitchen sink sizes available. Standard kitchen sink dimensions are 22 inches long by 30 inches wide, with an average depth of 7 to 10 inches. However, you can find a wide range of common sizes to suit your needs.

- 24 to 25 inches long: Kitchen sinks are considered small at 25 inches and under. This could work for a small kitchen that's tight on space.
- 27 to 30 inches long: The standard kitchen sink dimension of 30 inches is what's typical for average-sized kitchens in single-family homes.
- 33 inches long: Large sinks measure 33 inches, and they often have two basins. While bigger than standard kitchen sink dimensions, they're common in many household kitchens. They're a good size for large families or regular to big kitchens.
- 36 inches long: Oversized sinks are 36 inches or more, and they're more appropriate for sizable family homes or professional kitchens. Most homes would find these too big.

Deciding between the kitchen sink sizes depends on a few factors.

- Cabinet size and configuration: How big are your cabinets and would the layout interfere with your desired sink size?
- Counter space available/needed: Do you need to conserve counter space?
- Kitchen size: Is your kitchen small, average, or large?
- Planned usage: Does your family wash a lot of dishes by hand? Is there only one person living in the home?

Kitchen Sinks Mounting Styles & Types

Kitchen sinks come in different mounting styles and sink types. How your countertop is constructed and the material your sink is made of play large roles in which type you choose, and how your sink is installed. There are three main types of kitchen sinks: drop-in sinks, undermount sinks and farmhouse sinks. These types describe how the sink is mounted and installed. We'll cover these mounting styles below, as well as other less common styles and configurations.

Drop-In Sinks



- A drop-in sink is one of the most popular modern sink types. Also called a top mount sink, it literally drops into a pre-cut hole in the countertop. The edge of the sink rests on the counter for stability.
- Fairly easy to install, a drop-in sink works with almost every style of countertop and can be replaced without disturbing the countertop or relocating plumbing.
- Most drop-in sinks are self-rimming (held in place by their weight or fastened with clips and screws), though some are rimmed (more recessed into the countertop with the joint covered by a metal rim).

Undermount Sinks



- Undermount sinks are installed under the counter, making them ideal for use with solid surfaces and granite.
- They do not have an edge that rests on the countertop, so cleanup is easier when it comes to undermount vs. drop-in sinks.

Farmhouse Sinks



- Farmhouse sinks, also known as apron sinks, feature a wide expanse and deep bowl with an exposed front. They are available in a wide range of materials.
- This style allows for easier cleaning of larger items like pots and pans.
- A certain type of base cabinet is typically required to support it. Some styles can be retrofitted to your existing cabinets.

Bar Sinks



- A bar sink has a much smaller footprint than a standard sink, allowing it to be installed in spaces where a secondary sink is useful, such as a kitchen island or home bar.
- Usually made of stainless steel, they are easy to keep clean and sanitized.
- Allows for prep of fresh ingredients in isolation from the main sink to help prevent cross-contamination.