

HEART OF THE HOME

Kitchens and bathrooms are two of the most important rooms in your home.



You might not judge a book by its cover but many people judge a home by its kitchen and bathrooms.

Kitchens and bathrooms are two of the highest cost areas when building a home and for good reason.

They are the areas with the most appliances, fittings, features and extra attention needs to be paid to details like waterproofing.

Getting these two areas right is important for functionality, ease of use, livability and visual impact.

Anyone building a home should take some extra time to think about the flexibility of a kitchen space, how much time they will spend in it and how it will be used before settling on a design.

One of the biggest mistakes with a kitchen is having it too cramped or having a design that makes it hard to access the most used areas.

Visualise yourself in the space and how you will use it and pay attention to small details.

If someone is making school lunches is there room for another to be making breakfast at the same time? And if you have the pantry door open are you able to open the fridge door?

It is the little things that can make a kitchen more functional and enjoyable to use. However, not every kitchen needs the same features.

The type of life you lead may be reflected in the type of appliances you need.

If you are a keen cook and a big entertainer you might consider the higher end ovens and stoves whereas someone who eats out a lot or is away often might focus more on having an easily accessible microwave.

Storage is another important consideration and there are

many options like pot drawers or cupboards that can be accessed from both sides that maximize storage options and make cupboards easier to use.

The biggest consideration with bathrooms as a builder is making sure they are properly waterproofed.

Your home is likely to be your biggest asset and protecting it from moisture damage is a small thing that can save you financial pain in the years to come.

Making sure the showers including any tiled recesses, wall to floor joins and pipe penetrations are fully wet-sealed from the beginning will give you peace of mind in the future.

Flexibility should also be considered in the bathroom. If you have children or teenagers, how many of them will be using the bathroom? Is there adequate storage for all their bathroom necessities and is the space easy to use?

Getting these two areas right from the start can make your home more livable and add to its overall value in the years to come.

CHOOSING A BUILDER

- Are your kitchen and bathroom cupboards laminate finish inside and out?
- Is high moisture-resistant board used in your cupboards?
- Is your kitchen big enough for more than one person to work in?
- Does the kitchen layout enable easy movement between the pantry, fridge, stove, sink and preparation areas?
- Are your wet areas fully wet-sealed?
- Are tiled recesses in the shower waterproofed?

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From the start

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