

What a Kitchen Remodel Really Costs in San Diego in 2026

One-page summary of the article at <https://www.kaminskiyhomeremodeling.com/blog/kitchen-remodel-cost-san-diego-2026/>. Kaminskiy Design & Remodeling, San Diego, CA license #922807. Figures as of October 27, 2026; refreshed quarterly.

THE SHORT ANSWER

A kitchen designed, permitted and built by one accountable team in San Diego costs about **\$60,000 to \$225,000** in 2026, luxury kitchens higher. The median kitchen-only proposal Kaminskiy priced between 2021 and 2023 was **\$106,000**; the middle half fell between **\$85,000 and \$160,000**, the trimmed range \$55,000 to \$200,000. Nearly half (46%) of the kitchens priced fell between \$100,000 and \$150,000.

KAMINSKIY KITCHEN-ONLY PROPOSALS BY PRICE BAND, 2021 TO 2023 (SHARES)

Price band	Share of kitchen-only proposals
\$50,000 to \$75,000	17%
\$75,000 to \$100,000	12%
\$100,000 to \$125,000	38%
\$125,000 to \$150,000	8%
\$150,000 to \$175,000	8%
\$175,000 to \$200,000	8%
\$200,000 and up	8%

BY THE YEAR PRICED, AND 2026 PRICING

Year priced	Median	Middle half (Q1 to Q3)
2021	\$85,000	\$68,375 to \$103,750
2022	\$130,000	\$100,000 to \$170,000
2023	\$120,000	\$106,004 to \$167,500
2026 (current pricing, same layout, mid-range)		\$100,000 to \$150,000

KAMINSKIY 2026 KITCHEN PRICING, SAN DIEGO COUNTY

Tier	What changes	2026 range
Cosmetic refresh	Counters, backsplash, paint, hardware, lighting; cabinets and layout stay	From \$60,000
Full remodel, same layout, mid-range	Semi-custom cabinetry, quartz, appliances, lighting, flooring	\$100,000 to \$150,000
Layout opened, high-end finishes	A wall removed or window moved, plumbing or electrical relocated, plan check	\$150,000 to \$225,000
Luxury and custom	Custom cabinetry, stone slabs, hidden appliances, architectural changes	\$135,000 to \$200,000 and up

WHERE \$125,000 GOES IN A SAME-LAYOUT KITCHEN

Line	Of \$125,000	Line	Of \$125,000
Cabinetry	\$35,000	Design, drawings, engineering	\$7,500
Labor and installation	\$25,000	Flooring	\$6,250
Appliances	\$15,000	Contingency	\$6,250
Counters and backsplash	\$12,500	Lighting	\$5,000
Electrical and plumbing	\$10,000	Permits and fees	\$2,500

COST PRESSURES, 2025 TO 2026

Pressure, 2025 to 2026	Change
City of San Diego DSD permit fees (May 4, 2026)	+7.25%
Cost vs. Value, Pacific major midrange kitchen, 2023 to 2025 editions	+7.0% (\$80,855 to \$86,480)
Supplier price increases reported by remodelers (NAHB, Q2 2026)	+6.7% average
Remodeler non-labor input costs, year over year (NAHB, Q2 2026)	+6.6%
Remodeling wages, year over year (NAHB, Q2 2026)	+2.3%
Imported cabinets: Section 232 tariff 25% now, scheduled 50% on Jan 1, 2027; appliances 25% on full value since Apr 6, 2026	

PERMITS (CITY OF SAN DIEGO, AUGUST 2026 FEE SCHEDULE)

No-plan building permit (IB-203) for a kitchen with no structural, framing or fixture-count change; simple kitchen plumbing permit \$440.82, first five circuits \$176.57 (IB-103). Full plan check (IB-501) when a wall, window or fixture is added: plan check \$3,512.92 and inspection \$2,228.29 for the first 500 sq ft, plus the \$737 general plan fee; Express plan check \$793.95 plus 1.5x. Homes 45 years or older get a potential-historic review (about ten business days); pre-1978 homes pay a \$58 lead hazard fee. County (unincorporated): minor interior remodel \$405 plan review + \$521 permit; major remodel \$2,296 + \$1,896 (PDS 613).

METHOD AND SOURCES

First-party figures: Kaminskiy's customer relationship records 2021 to 2026, priced kitchen proposals tagged Kitchen Remodel, kitchen-only when the type was the kitchen alone or the kitchen plus the living space it opens onto; proposals under \$20,000 excluded; median and quartiles on the rest; the top and bottom 5% trimmed before the range; shares, medians and ranges published, not counts. Published sources (read October 27, 2026): Zonda Cost vs. Value 2025 (JLC); Harvard JCHS LIRA (Oct 22, 2026); NKBA 2026 Outlook and Trends; NAHB RMI and input-cost updates (2026); City of San Diego DSD Information Bulletins 501, 203, 103 and the May 2026 fee notice; County PDS 613; California Energy Commission; BLS OEWS San Diego (May 2025); trade-law notes on the 2025 to 2026 tariffs. Full citations on the article page.

Kaminskiy Design & Remodeling, 858-271-1005, kaminskiyhomeremodeling.com. Generated October 28, 2026. You may quote these tables with a link to the article.