



Why Hire a Certified Designer?

Kitchens and bathrooms are the most essential rooms in a home. These spaces should be comfortable, beautiful and safe, while at the same time reflecting the homeowner's individual style and taste. Designing a kitchen or bath to be both functional and aesthetically pleasing takes highly specialized skills and knowledge. That's why working with an NKBA-Certified Designer is invaluable.

NKBA Certification

The premiere hallmark for kitchen and bath professionals, NKBA Certification is based on proctored examinations and extensive industry experience. NKBA Certified Designers must also meet annual continuing education requirements annually.

The NKBA certifies kitchen and bath design professionals in various stages of expertise:

AKBD® Associate Kitchen & Bath Designer

- Minimum 2 years industry experience
- 30 NKBA Education hours
- 2 affidavits

CKD® or CBD® Certified Kitchen Designer or Certified Bath Designer

- 7 years industry experience
- 60 NKBA Education hours
- 2 affidavits, 2 client references

CMKBD® Certified Master Kitchen & Bath Designer

- 10 years industry experience*
- 100 NKBA Education hours
- 3 examples of 3rd party endorsements

** after attaining initial certification*

Selecting a Designer

Choosing a design professional can be a difficult decision. By selecting an NKBA Certified Designer, you will be working with a professional who:

- Has demonstrated comprehensive knowledge in kitchen and bath design, as well as construction, mechanical, plumbing and electrical systems
- Adheres to a strict Code of Professional Conduct
- Is an expert in the NKBA Kitchen & Bath Planning Guidelines & Access Standards, which recognize the importance of consumer health, safety and welfare in kitchen and bath design
- Is a member of the NKBA, a professional organization that provides them with the training and tools needed to succeed
- Is skilled at assessing consumers' individual needs and wants and creating designs that meet and exceed these requirements
- Remains current on local building codes, safety and environmental regulations and the wealth of new products and equipment on the market



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Why Hire a Certified Designer? (continued)

The Design Process

- When selecting a design professional:
- Ask for references and visit their showroom or store, if possible.
- Involve the entire family in the process and discuss any special needs.
- Pick the designer that satisfies your taste and style most. You should not be persuaded to do anything you don't like or that doesn't fit your budget.
- Trust an NKBA Certified Designer to help make your dream kitchen or bath a reality.

Source: National Kitchen and Bath Association