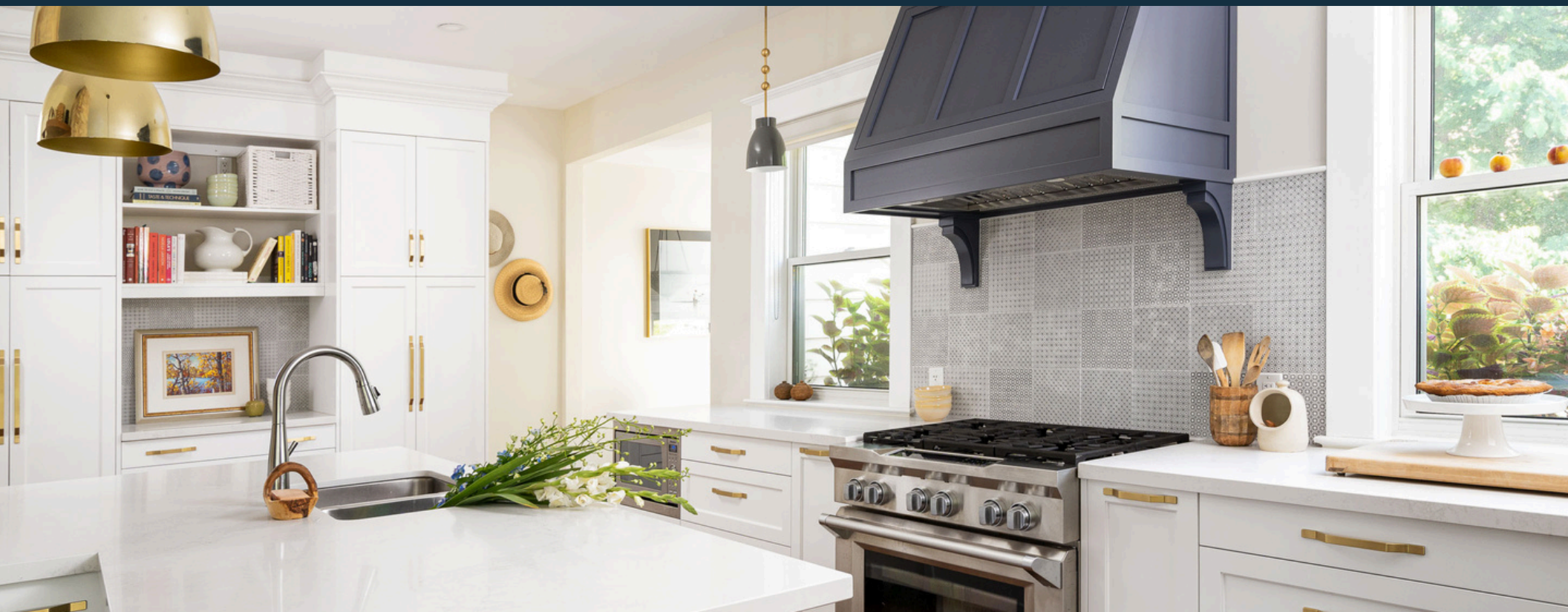




SWEDISH DOOR

The Ultimate Guide to Cabinet Refacing:
Framed vs. Frameless Cabinets



About Us



At Swedish Door, we firmly believe that everyone deserves to enjoy a stunning and cost-effective space. Since our launch in 2016, we've been dedicated to making high-quality, bespoke-looking kitchens achievable for more people. With thousands of successful projects under our belt, we take immense pride in helping people transform their homes.



Upgrade your home with premium quality doors that won't break the bank.



Collaborate with our design partners to create a space that reflects your style.



Tailor every detail to your exact specifications with our fully customizable options.



Discover a wide selection of styles, materials, and finishes to match your vision.



Framed vs Frameless



If you're considering a kitchen refresh, cabinet refacing is one of the most impactful—and budget-conscious—ways to transform your space. But before you dive into selecting your new door style or paint color, the first step is understanding what kind of cabinets you have: **Framed or Frameless.**

Not sure what that means? *We've got you covered.*



What Are Framed Cabinets?



Framed cabinets have a face frame—a solid wood structure attached to the front of the cabinet box, typically 1-1/2" wide. The doors mount to this frame, giving the kitchen a more traditional aesthetic. This construction is especially common in North America.

Overlay Options:

- **Half Overlay:** More of the frame is visible when the doors are closed.
- **Full Overlay:** Doors cover most of the frame for a more seamless appearance.



Framed Cabinet - American Style

Refacing Framed Cabinets



Refacing framed cabinets with Swedish Door products is straightforward:

- **Paint the Frames:** Most customers opt to paint the face frames and visible box edges to match their new door colour. We can help you match our factory finish with high-quality paint recommendations.
- **Upgrade Hinges:** Many older framed cabinets use exposed hinges. Upgrade to soft-close concealed hinges for a modern, smooth-close experience.
- **Add Finishing Touches:** Use our matching panels, fillers, and toe kicks to cover exposed sides or clad larger areas like islands and peninsulas—no painting required.



What Are Frameless Cabinets?



Frameless (or “Euro-style”) cabinets don’t have a face frame. The doors attach directly to the sides of the cabinet box, offering a sleek, contemporary look with full access to the cabinet interior.

This style is popular across Europe and Canada—and a staple in IKEA cabinetry.

Design Benefits:

- Clean, minimalistic lines
- Full access to interior storage
- Suited for both modern and contemporary spaces



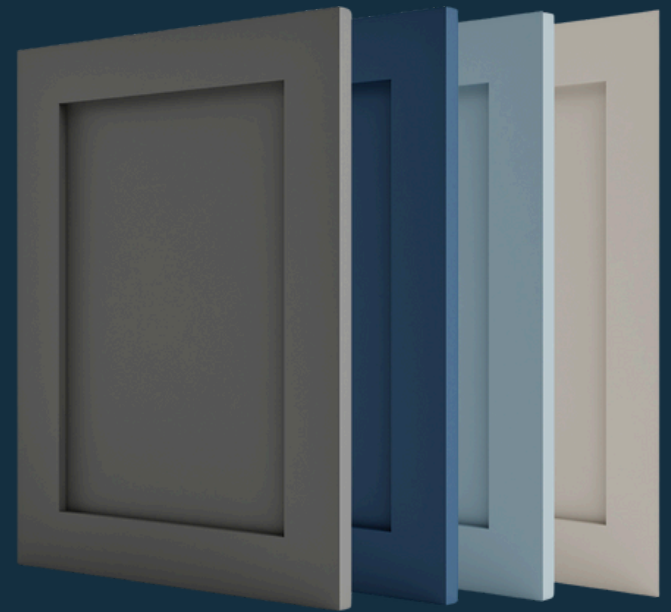
Frameless Cabinet - European Style

Refacing Frameless Cabinets



Refacing your frameless cabinets is a simple process:

- **Replace Side Panels:** Visible cabinet sides are often covered with panels that can be unscrewed and replaced with custom ones in your new finish.
- **Toe Kicks & Fillers:** Easily updated with matching Swedish Door components.
- **Reuse or Replace Hinges:** Reuse your existing soft-close hinges or upgrade to our premium European-style hardware for a like-new feel.





Corner Cabinets:

Know What You're Working With

Corners can be tricky—and measuring the right hinge type is essential. Here's a breakdown of the most common corner cabinet configurations:

1. Blind Corner Cabinets

Usage: Base or upper cabinets

Frameless: Requires a blind corner hinge set

Framed: Typically uses standard hinges

2. 45° Angle Cabinets

Ideal for glass inserts & decorative displays

Frameless: Requires 45-degree hinges

Framed: Uses standard hinges

3. Lazy Susan (Pie Cut) Cabinets

Two hinged doors open together

Hinges: A pair of 170° cabinet-to-door hinges plus door-to-door hinges. Order one Lazy Susan hinge set per cabinet

4. Glass-Ready Cabinets

- Available in most profiles
- Perfect for upper cabinets or bar areas
- Ready for glass installation

Swedish Door can provide glass-ready frames. Glass inserts should be sourced and installed locally.

Measuring for a Flawless Fit



Getting your measurements right is key to a successful refacing project. **Here's how:**

- Use a steel measuring tape for accuracy
- Sketch your layout using grid or graph paper
- Record all measurements as Width x Height (in inches)
- Use painter's tape to label and mark your cabinets as you go



Floating Shelves



Whether you're looking for a wood-look shelf to match your lower cabinets or a painted finish to blend with your walls, we can create shelves that integrate perfectly into your space.

Available Sizes (H x W x D)

2 3/8" x 12" x 10"

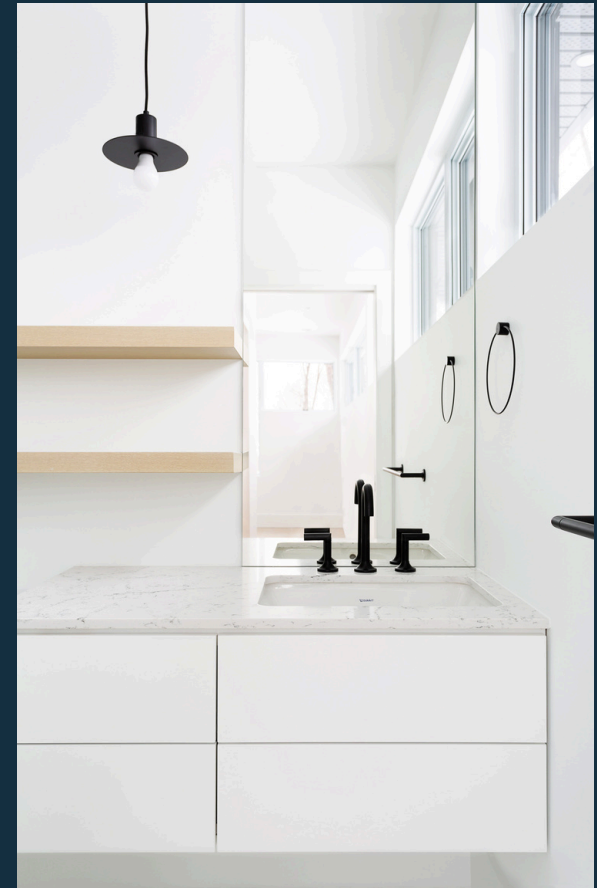
2 3/8" x 24" x 10"

2 3/8" x 36" x 10"

2 3/8" x 48" x 10"

2 3/8" x 60" x 10"

Designed with our patent-pending bracket system, our shelves provide superior structural stability and can support 20lbs per bracket (included).



Recommended Tools



Whether you're tackling a full kitchen transformation or updating a few cabinets, having the right tools on hand will make all the difference.

Installation Tools

- Cordless drill + drill bits
- Assorted screwdrivers
- Rubber mallet
- Level
- Allen keys
- Stud finder
- Table saw / Circular saw

Measuring and Marking

- Measuring Tape
- Pencil or fine-tip marker
- Painter's tape

Finishing Touches

- Touch-up paint
- Sandpaper (120-220 grit)
- Wood filler

Conversion Table

Imperial	Metric
1/8"	3.2 mm
1/4"	6.4 mm
1/2"	12.7 mm
3/4"	19.1 mm
1"	25.4 mm
12"	30.5 cm
24"	61 cm
36"	91.4 cm
48"	121.9 cm

Pro Tips & Best Practices



Measure Twice, Cut Once

- Double-check all measurements, especially door and drawer openings. Always write measurements in Width x Height format.

Keep Hinges Consistent

- If you're reusing hinges, mark where they were mounted and store them with their matching door/drawer.

Label Everything

- Use painter's tape to label old doors and drawers before removing them. This makes it easy to identify what goes where later.

Use a Level Often

- Whether it's installing new doors, floating shelves, or trim panels, frequent leveling checks help avoid crooked lines and future headaches.

Best Sellers

Discover our best-selling cabinet door styles—timeless designs that have become customer favorites for their versatility, quality and craftsmanship. Trusted by homeowners and designers alike, our top picks make it easy to create a space that’s both beautiful and uniquely yours.

EMIL



1.

Available in:

- Painted
- EuroMatte
- Thermofoil

ALBIN



2.

Available in:

- Painted
- 5-Piece Wood
- Thermofoil

AART



3.

Available in:

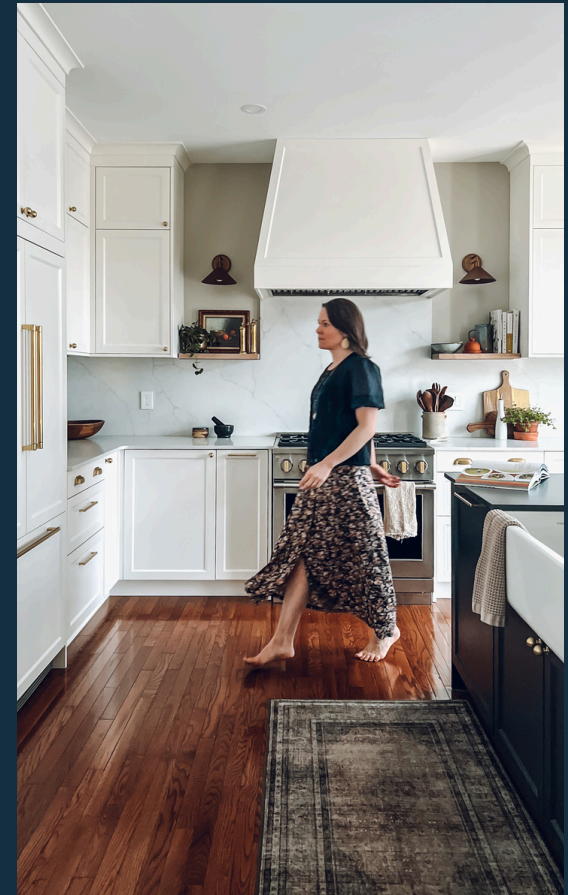
- Painted
- 5-Piece Wood
- Thermofoil

Still Not Sure Where to Start?



We're here to help. Whether you're working with IKEA, a local cabinetmaker, or something completely custom, Swedish Door specializes in made-to-measure cabinet fronts and components for any kitchen.

Ready to reface? **Start with a sample** or **book a design consult** with one of our design partners today.





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