

Bellingham Painting Co.

UPDATED 2026-08-04

Cabinet refinishing in Bellingham, a kitchen owner cost and prep guide

Real price ranges, the 5 to 7 day sequence, coatings by name, and the prep steps that decide how long it lasts

WHAT IT RUNS HERE

Cabinet refinishing in Bellingham, WA runs \$2,750 to \$6,600 for an average kitchen, or from \$85 per door when you only want the fronts done. Most kitchens take 5 to 7 days with the doors off. Price tracks door count, wood species, and how much grease and grain filling the job needs. Coatings are Sherwin-Williams Emerald Urethane or Benjamin Moore Advance, with 2 years on workmanship. Call (360) 383-5454.

Free estimate, written scope

<https://bellingshampaintpros.com/guides/cabinet-refinishing>

(360) 383-5454

START HERE

What matters most

- An average Bellingham kitchen refinishes for \$2,750 to \$6,600, or from \$85 per door.
- Plan on 5 to 7 days with the doors off the boxes and the kitchen half out of service.
- Red oak has open pores that read through paint unless the grain is filled and sanded flat first.
- Sherwin-Williams Emerald Urethane recoats at 4 hours in ideal conditions, Benjamin Moore Advance at 16.
- January in Bellingham averages near 83 percent relative humidity, which stretches cure time on every coating in the kitchen.

THE NUMBERS

Cabinet refinishing price ranges in Bellingham, WA

SCOPE	WHAT IT COVERS	BELLINGHAM RANGE
Average kitchen, doors and boxes	Degrease, sand, prime, two sprayed finish coats, hardware off and back on	\$2,750 to \$6,600
Priced per door	Small kitchens, laundry cabinets, vanities, or fronts only	\$85 per door
Interior repaint at the same time	Walls, ceilings, trim and doors in a typical 3-bedroom	\$4,950 to \$9,900
Exterior painted the same year	Wash, scrape, prime bare wood, two coats on siding and trim	\$4,200 to \$9,350

Door count, wood species and whether oak grain gets filled move a Bellingham cabinet price far more than the color you pick.

The number to start from

An average Bellingham kitchen refinishes for \$2,750 to \$6,600, or from \$85 per door. Plan on 5 to 7 days with the doors off.

Count your own doors and drawer fronts first. Drawer fronts count as pieces and people usually guess low.

- Average kitchen, doors and boxes: \$2,750 to \$6,600
- Priced per door: \$85 per door
- Interior repaint at the same time: \$4,950 to \$9,900
- Exterior the same year: \$4,200 to \$9,350

Refinish, reface or replace

Refinishing keeps your boxes, doors, layout and glides and changes the finish. Refacing buys new doors over existing boxes. Replacement is a gut.

Refinishing is right when the boxes are solid and the layout works. It is wrong when boxes are failing or thermofoil has already lifted.

- Refinishing does not change door profile or wood species
- Grain filling gets oak close to smooth but the profile stays
- Failing thermofoil corners are a replacement, not a refinish

Your wood changes the prep

Pacific Northwest kitchens run to a short list of species and each one changes the sanding and priming steps.

- Red oak: open pores, needs grain filling for a smooth painted look
- Alder: soft at about 590 Janka, dents get filled before spray
- Maple: closed grain and slick, so scuff and primer choice matter
- Hickory and knotty pine: tannin bleed, needs a shellac based blocker
- Thermofoil and melamine: scuff plus bonding primer, no wood to sand

Coatings by the numbers

Sherwin-Williams Emerald Urethane recoats at 4 hours at 77 degrees and 50 percent humidity, 350 to 400 square feet per gallon at 1.3 mils dry, under 50 grams per litre VOC.

Benjamin Moore Advance recoats at 16 hours, 400 to 500 square feet per gallon, 43 grams per litre VOC, minimum 50 degrees, and should not be applied above 85 percent humidity.

- Bonding primer on thermofoil and slick factory finishes
- Shellac based blocker on knots and water stains
- High-build sandable primer where oak grain is filled
- Heat and air movement are what make winter cabinet work run

The 5 to 7 day sequence

Hardware and doors come off and get numbered, everything gets degreased, then sanded, filled and primed, then two finish coats, then cure and rehang.

- Degrease before sanding, every time
- Sand the primer, that pass sets the feel of the finish
- Two coats on doors sprayed flat, two on boxes in place
- Walkthrough with a light held sideways across the door faces

Why finishes fail

Almost every cabinet failure traces to grease, a skipped scuff on a factory finish, or loading the kitchen before the coating hardened.

- Grease under the coating peels the doors near the range
- Blocking happens when doors close on soft enamel too early
- Conversion varnish without abrasion peels in sheets
- Worn hinge holes get plugged and redrilled or doors drift

Living with it

Close doors gently for the first two weeks, keep felt bumpers off until the finish is hard, and clean with warm water and a drop of dish soap.

- No abrasive pads, ammonia or bleach cleaners
- Run the range hood every time you cook
- Keep one labeled quart for touch-ups
- Workmanship covered 2 years on the application itself

What to check before you hire a cabinet refinisher

- ☐ You counted doors and drawer fronts yourself and the bid matches that count.
- ☐ The bid names a degreasing step before any sanding happens.
- ☐ It says where the doors get sprayed, flat and off the boxes or hanging in place.
- ☐ The primer is named and matched to your substrate, bonding for thermofoil, shellac based for knots.
- ☐ Two finish coats are stated, with the product line written out.
- ☐ Grain filling is either included or excluded in writing if your cabinets are oak.
- ☐ Old hardware holes are listed as filled and redrilled if you are changing pulls.
- ☐ Hinges are being labeled by door rather than thrown into one bucket.
- ☐ The L&I registration number is on the paperwork and shows active with a current bond.
- ☐ You signed the RCW 18.27.114 disclosure statement before the crew started.
- ☐ Bellingham sales tax is itemized rather than folded into the total.
- ☐ The 2 year workmanship warranty is written into the contract.

Want a real number for your place?

We walk the job, measure it, and put the scope in writing. Free, and there is no pressure attached.

(360) 383-5454

bellingshampaintpros.com

Bellingham Painting Co. · Bellingham, WA

Full guide: <https://bellingshampaintpros.com/guides/cabinet-refinishing>

Prices shown are the ranges published on our website at the time of writing and are a starting point, not a quote. Every property is different. Figures update when the site does.