

# KITCHEN STORAGE PLANS FROM SELECTED HOUSES IN KOREA

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This is part of a five-year study supported by the Hanssem Kitchen Manufacturing Company, which has investigated the possession of kitchen appliances by Seoul residents. In the previous study, there were significant differences in the ownership of kitchen appliances among different socioeconomic classes, age of family, housing size, and housing type. Often kitchen appliances and equipment were not efficiently used due to inappropriate storage. The purpose of this study, therefore, is to suggest an efficient kitchen storage plan, for four selected cases, using for the types and number of appliances shown in the previous study.

Kitchens were selected according to housing size, using data from the fourth kitchen remodeling study. Selected cases of kitchen storage plans were as follows: 290 ft<sup>2</sup> one-room apartment, 640 ft<sup>2</sup> small apartment, 1138 ft<sup>2</sup> medium-sized apartment, and 1779 ft<sup>2</sup> single detached house.

Three renowned kitchen furniture makers were selected to identify the types of kitchen storage furniture that would be available including categories. Catalogs and photos of kitchen furniture that would be produced after 1996. The kitchen storage plan would enable the efficient storage and use of appliances in each case.

The results included:

## Case 1 : One-room apartment (290 ft<sup>2</sup>)

The one-room apartment was selected as the smallest kitchen type. The owner of this apartment was a single female office worker. The size of this kitchen was 47 ft<sup>2</sup>, designed as an L-shape. The average resident of a 290 ft<sup>2</sup> apartment had six categories of kitchen appliances: major appliances, portable electric appliances, knives, small kitchen utensils, cooking utensils, and cookers.

## Case 2 : Small apartment (640 ft<sup>2</sup>)

A comparatively small apartment was selected as a small kitchen type. The owner of this apartment was a single woman working as a freelancer. The kitchen of this apartment was about 128 ft<sup>2</sup>, the kitchen facing south, and designed in a U-shape. Average residents of 640 ft<sup>2</sup> apartments had many portable electric appliances, and fewer cooking utensils, according to the data. The residents of small apartments apparently did not have much interest in cooking. The kitchen storage layout was designed to accommodate the life style of small apartment residents.

Case 3 : Medium size apartment (1138 ft<sup>2</sup>)

This apartment was selected to present a popular Korean Apartment size. The family in this apartment consisted of four members, a man and woman in their fifties, with two children. The number of kitchen appliances was large compared to the kitchen size, so the kitchen storage was designed as a U-shape to improve efficiency.

Small kitchen utensils were the most common appliances in these apartments, suggesting that cooking was frequent. The number of cooking utensils possessed by average residents of medium sized apartments was greater than that of small-apartment residents, but was the lowest compared with other appliances.

Case 4 : Single detached house (1779 ft<sup>2</sup>)

A single detached house had the largest kitchen. The family consisted of four members; a man and woman in their fifties, with two children. The size of the kitchen was comparatively large (113 ft<sup>2</sup>). This kitchen was designed in a U-shape with a wall kitchen unit. The average residents of single detached houses had a larger number and variety of appliances than any other type of resident. The number of kitchen appliances increased, as housing size increased. Although residents of single detached houses had lots of infrequently used appliances, making efficient storage more important.