

Traditional Raised Panel Doors

As its name suggests, a raised panel cabinet has a center panel that is slightly raised or higher than the surrounding wood or the main surface of the door.

Raised panel cabinetry rose to popularity during the American colonial era, when their presence in a home was a sign of wealth because they were more costly to make.

Construction wise, raised panel cabinet doors are built by attaching the panel using an adhesive or by carving grooves into the cabinet door's frame to create an outer rim or overlay.

The center panel may also be carved in such a manner that they slope backwards to the edges to create a raised effect. This makes the cabinet door look as though it was carved out of a single, large plank.

The raised panel provides additional depth and dimension to a simple flat panel door design. Raised panel cabinets come in a variety of styles and designs which allow them to fit into both traditional and modern kitchen settings.

As we have mentioned, raised panels doors come in a variety of designs and the trim work they feature may not always be the same. The overlay around the center panel is generally grooved, but in some cases, they have a decorative edge on the interior and exterior.

Aside from grooves, beveling and beading can also be incorporated into the design to achieve a more decorative effect.

The most common design comes with a simple framework around the edges, while some variations include a stepped frame to add more visual depth and dimension to the door.

Other raised panel doors feature arches instead of square edges. Some raised panel designs may also incorporate a combination of different raised center panels and framed type panel.

Unlike Shaker cabinets which are typically made of solid wood through and through, raised panel doors can be constructed using mixed materials. To add more ornamentation to the original wooden raised panel door design, glass or metal inserts may be used.

