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GRT **FACTORS INFLUENCING THE SELECTION AND USE OF MODULAR KITCHENS AMONG HOME MAKERS**

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Abstract:-A kitchen is a part of a room used for cooking. The main function of a kitchen is cooking, however it may also be used for dining, storage entertaining, dishwashing and laundry .Planning a kitchen is very important. A kitchen can be more than just a place to prepare meals. For many families, it's the heart of the home and "nerve centre" where family members gather to talk, work, eat meals and sometimes even entertain guests especially if they are close friends.

Keywords: Factors Influencing , Modular Kitchens , Methodology .

INTRODUCTION

The kitchen is one of the busiest and most expensive rooms in the home and it should be planned to save time and energy for those who work in it. A well planned kitchen can prevent hazards that might cause fatal accidents and at the same time it can also provide a pleasant environment for family members. Kitchens allow the cook to express the culinary skills and are any gourmet's paradise. The style and elegance is achieved in kitchen décor within the parameters of convenience and ease.

Modular kitchens are ready kitchens scrupulously designed to fulfil individual needs and adapt to available space. Today modular kitchens have become the common way of life. With the convenience and comfort of ready module, one can avail of modern facilities and maintain a consistency in décor that defines ones personal statement of style. Modular kitchens offer the latest in design and style .they optimizes space and is durable. The traditional kitchens were dingy and unorganised whereas the modular kitchens of today are sleekly designed to suit the individual needs and preference as well as the available space in any home.

METHODOLOGY

Aim – To study the factors contributing to the selection and use of modular kitchens in Bangalore City.

OBJECTIVES

- 1.To know the reasons for installing modular kitchens.
- 2.To know the various uses of modular kitchens.

PROCEDURE

Purposive random sampling was used to select the sample for the study. Sixty homemakers who were using branded modular kitchens were selected from Bangalore City. The homemakers were interviewed with the help of a structured interview schedule. The data collected through interview was analysed by using number and percentage.

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

A majority of the respondents that is 40 % were in the age group of 30-40 years, 28% in the age group of 40-50 years and 17% in the age group of 20-30 years. About 15 % were above 50 years.

TABLE -1
REASONS FOR INSTALLATION OF KITCHEN

Reasons	Number	Percentage
Appearance	25	41.6
Ease of maintenance	18	30
Efficiency	17	28.4
Total	60	100

From the above table it is found that a majority of the respondents that is about 41.6 % chose modular kitchens for their homes mainly due to their good appearance. About 30 % said that Ease of maintenance was the main reason for their choice of modular kitchen, where as 28.4 chose them due their efficiency.

TABLE -2
TABLE SHOWING THE VARIOUS USES OF MODULAR KITCHENS

Use of kitchen	Number	Percentage
Time saving	09	15
Energy saving	08	13.3
Ease in maintenance	19	31.7
Optimizes space	11	18.4
Easy access	13	21.6

The above table shows that a majority of respondents said that modular kitchens were easy to maintain, 21.6 % said that materials were easily accessible, 18.4 % said that they optimize space, 15 % said that they were helpful in saving time and about 13.7 % were of the opinion that modular kitchens helped save their energy.

SUMMARY

Modular kitchens are ready kitchens designed to set up as separate components and can be modified to suit individual needs. They offer latest in design, style and brands. The present study was limited to ten brands and 60 respondents in Bangalore city. The study was conducted to understand the reasons for installation and access the various uses of modular kitchens. A majority of the respondents were in the age group of 30-40 years. About 41.6 % of the respondents installed modular kitchens mainly due to their good appearance, while 30 % due to ease in maintenance and 28.4 % for efficiency in usage. About 31.7 % were of the opinion that modular kitchens were useful due ease in maintenance, 18.4 % due to optimization of space, 15 % due to time saving factor and 13.3 due to energy saving factor.

CONCLUSION

Modular kitchens are the current trends in kitchen designs and offer a wide variety in brands, designs and cost. They are attractive in appearance, easy to maintain, easily accessible optimize space and are highly efficient in terms of saving time and energy.

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