

Above-Cabinet Decor Checklist

From the article: How to Decorate Above Kitchen Cabinets: Ideas That Look Intentional

- ☐ **Clear the cabinet tops**
Remove everything and wipe surfaces down with a degreaser.
- ☐ **Lay a washable runner**
Put a washable mat on each cabinet top before styling for easy dust removal.
- ☐ **Divide the run into zones**
Plan 2-4 groupings across the cabinet run with breathing room between them.
- ☐ **Anchor each zone**
Set the tallest piece at the back of each zone: a crock, basket, or leaning frame.
- ☐ **Layer in odd numbers**
Add mid-height and low pieces in front, in groups of 3 or 5, mixing shapes.
- ☐ **Respect the grease zone**
Keep all decor at least 3 feet from the range hood on either side.
- ☐ **Edit ruthlessly**
Step back at least 10 feet and remove one item from every zone.
- ☐ **Echo the room**
Repeat one color or material from nearby wall art, backsplash, or shelves.
- ☐ **Add light**
Install a slim LED strip or small picture light so the display reads after dark.
- ☐ **Plan seasonal swaps**
Keep 2/3 permanent; rotate 1/3 seasonally. Store off-season pieces in a labeled bin.
- ☐ **Keep the keep-off list**
No boxes, packaging, cleaning supplies, cookbooks, or heavy soffit loads.