

Most people would agree the kitchen is at the heart of every home. When a flood happens the kitchen is often the most costly item to replace. If you are replacing your kitchen following a flood, or simply upgrading your kitchen but live in an area of flood risk, then now is a good time to think about making things more 'flood resilient'. If you are flooded again, this can significantly reduce the disruption and loss – and it doesn't have to involve great cost.

In areas where the floodwater is not likely to be very deep, just using a little creative design can do the job easily. But for areas prone to extreme flood depths, it is important to completely rethink the design of your kitchen, so that it can become fully functional as soon as possible after the flood water has gone.

A more detailed booklet, with case studies and further suggestions for the type of changes that could be made, is available from the Flood Repairable website (see below). It will help you to discuss with confidence the potential for a flood resilient kitchen - with a kitchen designer (at any time) or with a designer and your Loss Adjuster (if claiming for a new kitchen on your insurance after a flood).



## **Useful links**

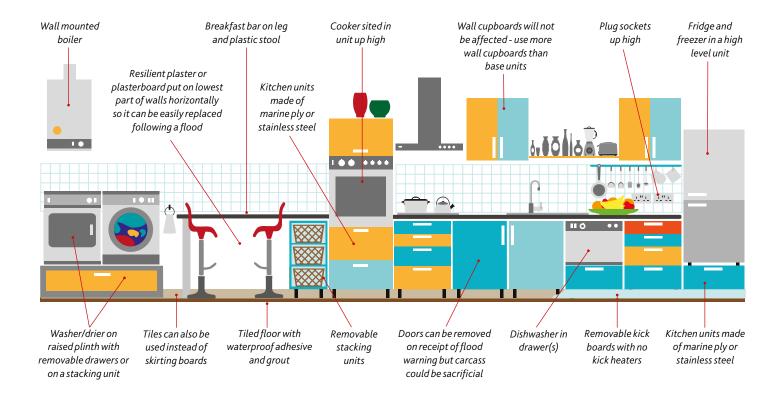
Flood Repairable: www.floodrepairable.wordpress.com/kitchens-and-bathrooms

BRE Resilience: www.bre.co.uk/resilience

Know your flood risk: www.knowyourfloodrisk.co.uk/sites/default/files/FloodGuide\_ForHomeowners.pdf

## Resilient measures for lower and mid level floods

Small design adjustments (as illustrated below) can help reduce the damage of a lower level flood. Changing the fabric of the kitchen units can be helpful in a midlevel flood.



## Resilient measures for high level extreme flood

When you expect a flood of this depth, it is a good idea to be able to empty and move as much of your kitchen contents upstairs or to a place of safety.

