

# Renovation, Week THREE and FOUR: Hurry Up to Wait



The cabinets arrived three weeks early, can you believe it?!

*Welcome to the Renovation Dance. Please, find a partner and a tool. Take two steps forward and then slide to the left. Take another step forward and then jump back. The Renovation Dance is a new way of jiggling about in your kitchen— there's no sink, no appliances, not even a cabinet to be seen. Time for a party... just hurry up and wait for the music to begin.*

I was super excited to report that our cabinets arrived last week— three weeks ahead of schedule! What?! That never happens with a renovation! *Jump up and down two times.* The boxes filled my family room from wall to wall to ceiling. My poor dogs had to travel a labyrinth in order to get outside (which was pretty entertaining to watch!).

Count three days and then the install team joined in the dance. By now, the cabinets are all unboxed and counted.

Ooooh... look at those pretty doors. *Take one step right as the electrician shows up.* Check out the old layout and realize that the current wiring set up will no longer pass code. *Grab your partner and take a full turn backwards.*

I bowed out and decided to focus on food instead- clearly a better project for me to manage. I was thankful for friends that hosted us for dinners this past weekend. I loved the company and the delicious meals. My kids even complained that we haven't had friends over for dinners in the last few weeks. Ummm yeah?! We don't have a kitchen! But it's reassuring to know that they like entertaining just as much I do. *(Remind me to add my boys to my dance card.)*



Fresh foods make all the difference in keeping us eating healthy during the renovation.

Meals have been pretty basic recently. I used the side burner on the grill to boil up a pound of pasta one night. We had home-rolled sushi the next with edamame and pomegranate seeds. I'm so glad my kids like fresh produce. I've been trying to have something fresh at each meal... sometimes something like pomegranate seeds or sometimes as simple as baby carrots and

ranch dip.

Hard boiled eggs, tuna salad, and lunchmeat have become great go-to snacks at all hours of the day.

I have a newfound appreciation for all of those frozen veggies that you cook in the bag. At first, I was skeptical about cooking IN a plastic bag, but it saves me so much effort if I don't have to wash a separate container out in the basement sink.

I've worked through my first four week meal plan pretty well, so starting next week, I will write a new plan that will carry us through the beginning of January. I'm *\*very hopeful\** that the kitchen will come together by then and I can get back to real cooking. I miss it, but this plan has saved me time and money, so I don't mind a little legwork.