



How to choose the right height of kitchen stool or bar stool

A comprehensive guide by Palason Games Billards and Decor

The first thing you want to do is measure:

Height – measure from the floor to the underside of the top of the counter or bar.

A kitchen counter usually stands at about 35" high requiring a stool with a seat between 24" and 26"

A bar usually stands at about 42" high requiring a stool with a seat at about 30"

We are seeing more custom built bars and lunch counters that are between 45" and 48" requiring a stool with a seat height of 34". Length of counter / bar to know how many stools will fit.

Allow about 21" to 25" per seat. Swivel stools and stools with arms need a little bit more space.

The next thing you want to do is take a look around the room the kitchen or barstools will be going in. What features of the room would you like the stools to compliment? For example, if you have stainless steel appliances in your kitchen you might like the idea of a similar finish on the stools to tie in to that aspect of the room. Or maybe you would like wooden stools to compliment the finish on your cabinets. We recommend that you bring in samples of your flooring, counter tops, paint colours, fabrics... anything that might help tie the style and color scheme of your room together.

With so many choices, you get to add your own personal touch to create the perfect stool for your space whether your style is more traditional, contemporary or modern.

Selecting a stool... narrow down your choices with design features that are important to you. Wood or metal, or a combination. Bar stool with a back or without a back Turn the stool around to take a good look at the back as the back view is normally what we see when we enter the room. Arms or no arms. One advantage of a stool with arms is that they can make it easier for children to get into a stool and get out of a stool.

Swivel, memory swivel or stationary. Swivel allows the seat to do a complete turn; memory swivel returns the seat to face forward. Adjustable height, allows the person to adjust the height of the stool to his or her liking. If you have hardwood flooring or a cushioned type flooring take a good look at the foot sliders of the stools you are considering. Some sliders are rounded making it difficult for protective felt pads to properly adhere to, so going with a flat cap is the best way to go for those types of flooring.

Bring family members or friends to test the stools out. We all have different body types, what might be comfortable for you might not be comfortable for someone else. Please note that if you are shopping for stools in the cooler seasons, to remember to take your jackets off before testing a stool out. Jackets create an extra padding that may make the back of a stool feel more comfortable than it is.

Design your stool –Let the designer in you come out!

Add your personal touch... if you are trying to bring texture into the room a fabric would be a good choice. If you have little ones or are concerned about accidental spills and want a seat that can be easily wiped consider vinyl or a combination leather product, and for luxury full leather. Choose the finish that compliments the seat and works with the room concept. If you are still not sure what stool you like best, we also offer a loan out program. If you see a stool on our floor you like, you can take it out on loan to get a better idea of how it fits in your room. When you bring it back you get a complete refund and you are under no obligation to buy.

So measure, gather any samples you may have such as flooring, cabinets, paint, window treatments, even hardware from the cupboards, and come on in. With so many options available to you, we are here to help you narrow down your choices and find the perfect stool for you.