Cabinet Door Tune-Up Sheet

Align hinges, fix gaps, and achieve a silent close.

Stop slamming kitchen cabinets and perfectly align your hinges with this reference sheet. You will achieve a silent close and beautifully balanced hardware placement.



Key Measurements

2½ in
Knob offset for upper/lower doors

2 pennies
Reveal check for vertical gaps

1/16 in
Clearance for seasonal wood movement

3/16 in
Brad-point bit for hardware holes

320-grit
Sanding sponge between paint coats

Flawless Tune-Up Sequence

1. **Paint panel, rails, stiles** Always start with the recessed center panel, move to horizontal rails, and finish with vertical stiles.
2. **Adjust overall height** Slightly loosen the main mounting plate screws to move the door up or down first.
3. **Side screw evens gaps** Turn the front-most screw nearest the door edge to push the door outward or pull it inward.
4. **Set the depth** Turn the rear screw to ensure a flush close against the cabinet frame.

Clip-on soft-close

Snap a cylindrical damper directly onto the arm of compatible existing European cup hinges to instantly upgrade your kitchen and silence slamming doors.

Choose Your Primer

Find your row: **Cabinet material**

Cabinet material	Your pick	Why
Solid maple	Standard primer	Tight grain takes paint beautifully
Red oak	Pore-filling primer	Fills deep, prominent grain patterns
MDF panels	Solvent-based primer	Prevents moisture swelling along edges

Essential Alignment Checks

- ○ Test heavy doors to see if two dampers are needed.
- ○ Vacuum hinge cups and wipe with a dry microfiber cloth.
- ○ Align the left door first to establish a plumb baseline.
- ○ Check for binding by inspecting clearance along the hinge side.

Project Notes

Enjoy your beautifully aligned, whisper-quiet kitchen cabinets!