

Closet-to-Bar Spacing & Plumbing Checklist

Map out exact clearances to build a high-end cocktail station.

Transform a standard hallway footprint into a beautiful, functional wet bar. Use this guide to plan your plumbing, wiring, and cabinet layout perfectly.

● Essential Clearances

36 in

Standard finished counter height

34.5 in

Level line for base cabinets

24 in

Minimum base cabinet depth

15 in

Lower shelf liquor clearance

12 in

Upper shelf glassware clearance

10 in

Deep shaker sink depth

1.5 in

Front countertop overhang

1/4 in per ft

Drain line pitch

Front-venting cooler

Standard mini-fridges overheat. You must use a zero-clearance, front-venting cooler and recess the electrical outlet so the unit sits perfectly flush in the tight enclosure.



● Construction Sequence

- 1 From basic closet** Remove bifold doors, mud edges for a 90-degree transition, and apply mold-resistant drywall primer.
- 2 Route utilities** Tap water lines with quarter-turn shutoffs and add dedicated GFCI protection at the main breaker.
- 3 Install cabinetry** Set boxes on composite shims and mount low-profile edge pulls to the door tops.
- 4 Anchor heavy shelving** Secure steel brackets directly into wooden wall studs, using heavy-duty toggle bolts as backup.

● Flooring Transitions

Find your row: **Flooring type**

Flooring type	Your pick	Why
Hardwood	Lace in new boards	3/4 inch clearance
Ceramic Tile	Metal tile edge	1/2 inch clearance
Luxury Vinyl	Flush T-molding	1/4 inch clearance

● Before You Build

- ☐ Check framing studs with a six-foot level for severe bowing.
- ☐ Verify floor joist direction before committing to the drain layout.
- ☐ Measure gooseneck faucet spout to ensure it clears tallest pitchers.

● Plumbing & Electrical Details

- ☐ Independent drain pump for dedicated clear ice maker
- ☐ Dedicated electrical circuit for heavy ice maker power draw
- ☐ Hidden blender outlet mounted sideways on return walls
- ☐ Low-voltage lighting wires routed through drywall before tile
- ☐ Penetrating sealer applied immediately to natural stone countertops
- ☐ High-performance epoxy grout for stain-free backsplash lines

● Project Notes

Cheers to mixing your favorite drinks in a beautifully crafted, custom space!