

Thinking About Home Remodeling? Start Here

Sooner or later you may join the millions of people who remodel their homes each year. Perhaps it is at that moment when you realize that avocado green and harvest gold are no longer the “in” colors for today’s trendy kitchens. Or maybe you have an epiphany one day as you stand in line to use your own bathroom. Whatever the impetus, the thought crosses your mind: Maybe it is time to start a home remodel. The reasons for home remodeling are as varied as the projects we undertake.

Some of these include:

- Adding more space
- Upgrading cabinets, counters, appliances and fixtures
- Creating a floor plan that is customized for your lifestyle
- Improving energy efficiency with new windows, doors, insulation, and climate control systems
- Increasing the resale value of your home

Where to Begin

The first step is to develop an idea of what you want to do with your home remodel. Write a prioritized list of your needs and wants. There are many sources to find design ideas for your home remodeling project. Look at magazines and websites and collect pictures of homes or remodeling projects you like. The more clearly you can envision the project and describe it on paper, the better prepared you will be in making your decision.

Think about traffic patterns, furniture size and placement, colors, lighting and how you expect to use the remodeled space. If your decision to remodel involves creating better access for someone with limited mobility, you may want to consider [contacting a Certified Aging-in-Place Specialist](#).

You may want to improve home efficiency and hire a professional remodeler for [green home remodeling](#). These projects include replacing windows and doors,



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upgrading heating and cooling systems, adding insulation, and other remodeling to make the home more energy-efficient, easier to maintain, and comfortable.

Figure out how much money you have to spend on the home remodeling job, furnishings, landscaping or any other cost you might incur.

Can you do it yourself?

Once you have created your list of priorities, you will need to decide how to accomplish that vision. For the handyman or woman, a do-it-yourself project can be both rewarding and cost-effective. However, more than 30% of all jobs home remodelers perform come from failed DIY projects.

[Hiring a professional remodeler](#) is the best way to ensure your project's success. These remodelers are dedicated to maintaining the highest integrity and standards in the industry.

If you decide to hire a professional, your next steps should include learning how to:

[Choose which remodeler is right for you](#)

[Avoid contractor fraud](#)



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