



How to prepare for a major renovation on your house

A major renovation on your house can be an exciting and rewarding project that can improve your living space, comfort, and value. However, it can also be a stressful and disruptive experience that requires careful planning, preparation, and management. Here are some steps you can take to prepare yourself, your home, and your contractor for a successful renovation:

- **Set realistic expectations and goals.** Know why you want to renovate, what you want to achieve, and how much you can afford. Be flexible and prepared for delays, surprises, and compromises.
- **Communicate with your family, friends, and neighbors.** Let them know about your renovation plans, timeline, and potential inconveniences. Ask for their support, cooperation, and understanding. If possible, arrange for alternative accommodation or assistance for yourself or anyone who may be affected by the renovation.
- **Do your research and homework.** Learn as much as you can about the renovation process, the materials, the costs, and the legal requirements. Seek professional advice from experts, such as architects, designers, engineers, or lawyers. Compare different options and get multiple quotes from contractors.
- **Plan ahead and stay organized.** Create a detailed plan that outlines the scope, budget, schedule, and responsibilities of your renovation project. Keep track of your progress, expenses, documents, and communication with your contractor. Use a calendar, a checklist, a spreadsheet, or an app to help you stay on top of things.

Prepare your home. Before your contractor arrives, you need to prepare your home for the renovation work that will take place. Some of the things you can do are:

- **De-clutter and pack up.** Remove any unnecessary or valuable items from the areas that will be renovated. Donate, sell, or discard anything you don't need or want anymore. Pack up anything you want to keep in labeled boxes or containers and store them in a safe place.
- **Protect and secure.** Cover any furniture or fixtures that will remain in the renovation area with plastic sheets or drop cloths. Seal any doors or windows that will not be used with tape or plastic to prevent dust or debris from spreading. Lock up any cabinets or drawers that contain important or personal items.
- **Clean and maintain.** Clean up any dirt or clutter from the renovation area and make sure it is accessible and ready for work. Perform any necessary repairs or maintenance on your plumbing, electrical,.