

How to Prepare for Trades Coming Into Your Home During a Renovation

Getting ready for a renovation is not just about choosing colours and products. A lot of delays, frustrations, and avoidable issues come from the property not being properly prepared for the people doing the work.

Clear the working area

Rooms, access routes, and storage spaces should be cleared as much as possible before the job starts. Trades can work around some obstacles, but every avoidable obstruction usually costs time and increases the risk of accidental damage.

Confirm access arrangements

Make sure everyone understands how to get in, where to park, which entrance to use, and whether there are any restrictions on working hours or noise. A five-minute access problem repeated every day becomes a very expensive habit.

Protect pets, children and non-working areas

Live renovation sites are not ideal places for pets or children to wander around. Keep non-working areas separate where possible and think carefully about safety, dust, noise, and trip hazards.

Check power, water and facilities

Most trades will need reliable access to electricity, water, and in many cases basic welfare arrangements. If any of these are limited, it is better to flag it before work begins rather than halfway through the first day.

Make product selections early

Tiles, flooring, sanitaryware, radiators, lighting, paint colours, doors, ironmongery, and similar items should be chosen in good time. Waiting until the trade is on site and then choosing from your phone while standing in the doorway is not a premium project management model.

Decide who is responsible for what

Be clear on who is supplying materials, who is arranging skips, who is removing waste, who is protecting surfaces, and who is responsible for final cleaning or disposal. Gaps in responsibility usually become arguments later.

Keep a simple record

It helps to keep one place for quotations, decisions, drawings, measurements, delivery notes, and agreed changes. Renovation gets messy enough without the paperwork joining in.

Plan for deliveries and storage

Large or early deliveries need somewhere dry and secure to go. If materials are arriving before they are needed, think about storage conditions and whether they could be damaged, warped, or in the way.

Final thought

A well-prepared property helps trades work better, faster, and with fewer issues. It also makes the whole renovation feel more controlled. The work itself may still be noisy and disruptive, but at least it does not have to be disorganised as well.

