

HOW TO CUT THROUGH THE CHAOS

Be Mentally, Remodel Ready

5 PRO TIPS TO PREP YOUR MIND

1 Your New Best Friends

Pro Contractor Selection Tip: Try searching your local BNI (Business Network International) Chapter or NARI (National Association of Remodeling Industry) Chapter. These members typically bring with them integrity, quality & operational excellence. Your Contractor and Crew are going to be like your new best friends for the amount of time they will be in your home. Look at past jobs, testimonies, meet with them and then trust yourself to make a decision.

2 Your Home: The New 7-11

It is important to discuss start/stop times with your contractor. Then honor that your home is going to be like a 7-11. People will be coming and going all day and this is good! Your dream home is in progress!! Eek!!

3 The Options Are Endless!! (Sigh)

In the next few months you will be making a lot of decisions. Instead of stressing about right or wrong consider what 'goes' together. Lean on your professional guides and trust the process. Pro Tip: Look at images of what you do like and DON'T like. This helps bring clarity to what you do want.

4 Adventure Seekers Wanted

Part of going on vacation or an adventure is that each day brings new experiences. Enjoy the journey of your remodel by welcoming each new day. Don't be afraid to ask questions. Pro Tip: The project will most likely have some 'detours' but be more interested in the resolution than thinking something went 'wrong.'

5 Let It Go.

Pro Tip: This is most important one. Road construction can be a major pain but the new road is fabulous. It is like that with a remodel. The disruptions to your life will be many but the end result will be FABULOUS!! The house doesn't have to be clean. You may not experience peaceful routine meal times. The schedule may not go as it was originally planned. Choose to find what is going well each day. Trust your professionals. Enjoy the Journey. Do the Remodel!

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5 PRO TIPS TO PREP YOUR HOME

1 Declutter

Prepping for a remodel is a BEAUTIFUL time to declutter. Buy some bins and do a wave of throw, donate and keep. This can also emotionally let your mind and body know there are some changes coming up as you begin your remodel journey.

2 Security 101

It is important to proactively communicate with your contractor where to enter and how to gain access to your home. Will you have an extra key hidden? Do you have a security system that they will have a code to? If you do have a security system how do they disengage the alarm if needed?

3 Remodel Shoes

There is a strong possibility during your remodel that shoes will be needed to walk through parts of your home. Pro Tip: Grab an old pair of shoes (slip-ons if you have them) that will be easy to put on and take off in the construction areas of your home.

4 Run Through Your Day

Whatever areas of the home you are remodeling - take a moment before the remodel begins and run through your day. How do you use these areas of your home to prepare you for what you WON'T have access to. Pro Tip: Make a list and create a small station in another area of the house for these items. Remember: this is not going to be luxury and bring with it the ease of your normal day living. Let it be fun and enjoy the journey.

5 Smile.

Be sure to take before pictures!! Pro Tip: Take a picture with you in it. Take a picture without you in it. Take the picture from a few different angles. Pro Tip: Take a picture from those same angles when the remodel is complete.

Bonus Tip: Smile! What a gift that you get to embark on creating your space the way you have envisioned it in your head. Find Gratitude in Each Day!

HOW TO CUT THROUGH THE CHAOS

Bonus: Insider Questions

* WHAT TO ASK YOUR CONTRACTOR *

1 Clarity on Budget

The budget is a primary part of your success. Budget numbers are only as good as the selections you choose. If it is really important that you stay within your budget it is a good idea to identify if you want a low, mid or high range budget. For example: if the contractor bids low range products each selection you make will require a change order. Your best option is to be honest and up front with what amount of money you want to invest in your home and allow them to budget accordingly.

2 What is your favorite past project & why?

Asking a question about a past project and what they enjoyed about it will give you insight into their love for the work.

3 Clarity on the Schedule

Understanding the schedule will help you have clear expectations not only for the timeline from start to finish but also to understand the amount of time you will need to reserve for making selections and any other meetings with your contractor.

4 Licensed & Insured

Make sure your contractor is licensed and insured. You can ask for this verification.

5 It is okay to ask.

Open communication is the best communication. If you have a question, be sure to ask. Problems arise when assumptions are made. Be okay with asking your questions. Your contractor wants to ensure you are on the same page.