

# Home Remodeling Checklist

for link and support information, go to: [www.LetsRenovate.com](http://www.LetsRenovate.com)

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## Should You Renovate or Buy New?

Good question

The dollar investment to remodel your home could be used to purchase a new home.

The decision to renovate or buy is based on a number of factors, including type of renovation, cost, neighborhood analysis, market valuation, your desire factor and other issues.

Home renovation costs should be 30% or less of your home market value

Understand the numbers before your begin:

go to our home remodeling steps: [www.LetsRenovate.com/step1.html](http://www.LetsRenovate.com/step1.html)

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## What Kind of Home Remodeling Project

This is the fun part of Home Remodeling — getting ideas and viewing home improvement galleries. We have suggestions on where to look:

- **View home remodeling ideas and picture galleries:**  
click for home remodeling ideas: [www.LetsRenovate.com/idea.html](http://www.LetsRenovate.com/idea.html)
- **View house plans of new homes that are being built.**  
Perhaps you can capture an idea from an existing design:  
view house plans at our affiliated site: [www.SearchHousePlans.com](http://www.SearchHousePlans.com)
- **View our Home Improvement Products Gallery.**  
You will find a complete directory of home improvement ideas and products for every room in the house: [www.LetsRenovate.com/sayimprove/](http://www.LetsRenovate.com/sayimprove/)

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## Design your home remodeling plan

Understand design trends before finalizing your remodeling plans. Home remodeling considerations include:

- **traffic patterns**  
traffic should flow to one side of the room rather than through its center; i.e., by placing the door ways in the corners
- **kitchens**  
larger kitchens have a greater resale value than smaller kitchens — you will want to design the working area with appliances in a triangular position for easy working
- **private areas**  
bedrooms and bathrooms should be separated visually from the working areas of the house

and much more considerations when designing your plan

You may require the help of an architect or designer. Or if your remodeling project is simple, there are some nifty Home Renovation software that you can use.

Either way, we have a complete listing of architectural services and designing software:

Jump to our home remodeling design directory: [www.LetsRenovate.com/plans.html](http://www.LetsRenovate.com/plans.html)



## Assembling Your Home Remodeling Specifications

Designing the remodeling specs is the most important task that you will undertake.

This task can be the most complicated since you need to detail everything about your remodeling plans so that you can bid the project out to a contractor.

Let's us help with our step-by-step remodeling specification sheet and supporting home remodeling ideas.

It is a FREE download without user registration.

Use it to note ideas for your remodeling plan: [www.LetsRenovate.com/plan-sheet.html](http://www.LetsRenovate.com/plan-sheet.html)

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## Finding and Selecting a Home Remodeling Contractor

The home remodeling specs from Checklist 4 will be used to bid the construction project. Take your specifications plan and follow these three important tasks:

1. **Take your spec plan and have it reviewed by an architect or other home designer.**

It will help them design or revise a house plan to fit your remodeling specs.  
find an architect / designer: [www.LetsRenovate.com/contractor.html](http://www.LetsRenovate.com/contractor.html)

2. **Take the architectural plan and submit a request for bids from remodeling contractors.**

The architectural plan should include your construction specs (if no, include your spec plan).

Make sure to work with a network of contractors that have been prescreened. Find a remodeling contractor: [www.LetsRenovate.com/contractor.html](http://www.LetsRenovate.com/contractor.html)

3. **Understand how to negotiate your contract with a contractor —**  
make sure you protect yourself: [www.LetsRenovate.com/contractor.html](http://www.LetsRenovate.com/contractor.html)



## Arrange Financing

Once you approve an acceptable bid from a contractor, you may now seek home remodeling financing from a lender.

The lender will most likely secure your financing using the equity value of your existing home.

**There are two types of home remodeling financing:**

1. home equity credit line
2. home equity or home improvement fixed-rate loan

We have more information: [www.LetsRenovate.com/step4.html](http://www.LetsRenovate.com/step4.html)

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## Estimating Your Home Value:

The amount of financing lenders will give you is based on the equity value of your home. Use to LTV calculator to estimate your financing amount.

### What's it worth?

Order your personal home valuation report

property reports:

- complete property valuation
- recent sales report
- comparable sales
- subject property report

view sample reports: [www.LetsRenovate.com/market-values.html](http://www.LetsRenovate.com/market-values.html)

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## Start the Project

Be prepared to manage and control your project to avoid surprises and cost overruns

Now for the construction — learn how to manage:

project management:

- change management
- problem resolution management
- cost management
- financial management

Understand what's needed:

go to home remodeling project management:

[www.LetsRenovate.com/project-management.html](http://www.LetsRenovate.com/project-management.html)

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## Inspect Your Home Remodeling Project

He who holds the money rules the process.

As your construction move through construction phases, get the project phase inspected before making payment.

Once payment leaves your hand, you lose control of getting things done right.

Information about inspections at our Step 5 guide:

[www.LetsRenovate.com/step5.html](http://www.LetsRenovate.com/step5.html)

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## Decorate Your Project

Your decorating budget may be tight, so shop wisely for best ideas and plans

Furniture, electronics, pictures, etc. — and that is just for the interior.

For the exterior, you have flowers, yard furniture, cooking grills, etc.

### **View ideas:**

go to our home improvement gallery: [www.LetsRenovate.com/sayimprove/](http://www.LetsRenovate.com/sayimprove/)

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## One Last Item

We have a complete 5-step home remodeling plan that details home remodeling steps: click [here](#)

Monthly expenses are generally tight after completing a home remodeling project. Take a moment to view our guides on lowering your monthly expenses: [www.SayLowerBills.com](http://www.SayLowerBills.com)