

10 Tips For A Successful Project

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No matter how many times you've taken on a renovation project, the beginning can seem daunting. Below are ten tips that will help you complete your project successfully, whether you're a first-timer or a renovation pro. If you want more information on specific projects like solar, windows, roofing or HVAC click those links for full buying guides.

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1. Plan Ahead

Take the time to explore designs for your renovation project. Find out about new technology in renewable energy and potential uses for your home. Think of your home and map out exactly what you want for it.



2. Find a Knowledgeable Contractor

Depending on the scope of your project you will need a contractor. A knowledgeable contractor will help guide you through the renovation process. He or she will ensure the work is done correctly and within the scope of your project.

3. Communicate Expectations

A contractor is many things but a mind reader is not one of them. Communicate your expectations for your project and make sure you're both on the same page before moving forward.

4. Read the Contract

Make sure it is specific to your project and not too general. If you have any questions or concerns, make sure you bring them up with your contractor. This will help you avoid headaches and disappointments in the future.

5. Be Honest With Yourself

Planning a home renovation project is exciting. Make sure you're honest with yourself— do you really want those giant [picture windows](#) or funky [arched windows](#) or would you get more benefits from an [energy efficient windows](#)?



6. Store Valuables

A home renovation project affects your entire home. Store safely anything that could be damaged during renovation. Take time to protect items from dust and vibrations: removing pictures from the wall and rolling up area rugs if necessary.

7. Respect Your Contractor and Their Team

You hired them to take the lead on this project so respect their expertise and trust them to get the job done. If something isn't going the way you'd like, speak up quickly and respectfully.

8. Create Temporary Spaces

Living in a renovation zone can be complicated: your home is turned upside down, especially when you take on large projects like a [roof replacement](#)! Get creative with

creating a temporary kitchen, closet or master bedroom while that area of the house is being renovated.

9. Be Open to Suggestions

Your contractor may suggest alternatives to what you originally had in mind. Hear them out as there is likely a good reason they brought it up. However, if you're committed to your idea then communicate that to your contractor and get the project done together!

10. Expect the unexpected

Timelines are extended, prices change, and weather impedes progress—life happens. During renovation projects, it's important to have a good attitude and expect the unexpected. Take a deep breath and remind yourself that this will make for a good story later on. Your dream home is just steps away!



Next we've got [10 questions to ask when you interview pros](#) to get all the information you need!

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