

5 Must Read Secrets Before You Start a Home Remodel

Getting ready to remodel your home? Whether this is your first remodel or your fifth, it's important to do a little legwork before beginning to help ensure a smooth process and the end result you desire.

Based on years of experience and having worked with thousands of homeowners on their remodeling projects, the team of designers, projects managers and craftsmen at Case Design/Remodeling Indianapolis created this list of “must read secrets” before beginning your next remodeling project.

Choose the Right Company

Remodeling your home, whether it is one room or the entire house requires teamwork. It involves teamwork between you and your design/build company or contractor, the design and construction teams, and between family members. When it comes to choosing the right company to work with, it's important to do your homework. Online sites like Houzz can be a great place to explore many options all in one place. Here, you can learn about their:

- Credentials,
- The services they provide,
- Read reviews on how they have worked with other homeowners like you, and
- View samples of the work they've done.

HINT: TALK TO YOUR FRIENDS TOO

Talking to friends, family and neighbors who have done similar projects to what you are looking to do can be another great way to find the right company.

Here are some questions you can ask:

- What did you like about working with them?
- What didn't go as planned?
- How did the company rectify the situation?

Choose a company that has been around awhile as well. Longevity shows that they will be there for you not only during the project but after the work is done should any needs arise.

HINT: GET TO KNOW YOUR DESIGNER

It's important to have a good rapport with your designer and feel like you are on the same page. A healthy give and take of ideas combining your style with your designers experience and knowledge of trends and design ideas will help make the process enjoyable and an end result beyond what you imagined.

Have a Direction In Mind When it comes to Your Style

When it comes to design options, the possibilities are virtually endless. Do your tastes lean toward a contemporary flair, or maybe something more traditional, or maybe a combination of both with a more transitional slant?

Whatever your tastes, it's really important to have an idea in mind so that when you meet with your designer for the first time you can give them a bit of direction on what you are looking for. This will allow your time together to be most productive. From there your designer can focus ideas based on your

tastes, your homes overall style, and your functionality needs helping to narrow down the myriad of options out there.

Have a Realistic Budget

Remodeling is a big commitment, from both a time and financial perspective. It's important to have a realistic budget going into a remodel. Your remodeler can help you determine a low, medium and high range for your project that is primarily dependent on the materials and products you choose. Sometimes a master plan is the way to go in which you plan for multiple projects but do each one at a time.

Plan for the Disruption

Remodeling is disruptive no matter how you look at it. There's the time involved from design through construction. There's the physical disruption to your home in terms of being without a kitchen or bathroom or larger area of your home. But just like with anything, planning for these disruptions is key.

HINT: A GOOD REMODELER CAN HELP YOU PLAN

If your kitchen is being remodeled a temporary kitchen can often be set up in another area of your home. It may not have the bells and whistles of your full kitchen but can help make getting through the day-to-day meals a little easier.

Stay Involved

Regardless of how much careful planning and attention to detail that is paid up front, decisions will inevitably come up along the way. Remember no two remodels are alike, so it's important to be light afoot when choices need to be made.

HINT: MEET REGULARLY WITH YOUR PROJECT MANAGER



Regular meetings and ongoing communication with your project manager should be a given throughout the project to address any unforeseen circumstances or to make adjustments as you begin to see your project come to fruition. It's oftentimes a lot easier to make tweaks along the way, then once the project is complete.

By following these simple steps, you can help ensure an efficient remodeling experience and achieve a great new space that you and your family can enjoy for many years to come.

Want to learn more for your first (or next) remodeling project? Register for our free seminars at caseindy.com/seminar.