

Bathroom Remodeling Checklist

Your existing bathroom has served you well over the years, but the time has finally come to transform it from an old “functional” bathroom to a new “Dream” bathroom. Once the decision has been made to remodel, the real work begins and there are a number of factors you should address very early on.

There are numerous decisions to be made when remodeling your bathroom. These decisions will not only determine the cost of the project, but will have a direct impact on the success of the final product. It is crucial that you spend sufficient time addressing these issues prior to commencing the work. As with any home renovation, the key is in the planning.

General

- *What is your budget?*
- *Are you keeping the same configuration of the bathroom as the existing layout?*
- *What do you like most about your current bathroom?*
- *What do you dislike most about your current bathroom?*
- *Are there currently enough bathrooms in the house for your family, as it expands for children, teens or live-in relatives?*

Use

- *What will the bathroom be used for?*
 - *Master bath, child’s bath, guest bath, powder room*
- *Who will be the primary users of the bathroom (adults, children, guests)?*
- *How many people will be using the bathroom at one time?*

Comfort

- *What features would make the bathroom more comfortable?*
- *Are there enough sinks and counter space available?*
- *If multiple family members are sharing the bathroom and they are separate, do you need private bathing and/or vanity areas that are required?*
- *Tub or Shower Enclosure?*
 - *Tile or fiberglass enclosure*
 - *If it is a shower, do you want a fiberglass shower pan or tile*
 - *Prefab fiberglass units are more cost effective than tile, however tile is much more aesthetically appealing and adds more value to your home*
- *Do you prefer to take showers or baths?*
 - *If you like baths, would you prefer a tub and shower combination unit or would you like to have them separate*
- *Would you like to install a whirlpool or stem shower? How about for you bathtub, would you like a Jacuzzi jet tub, standard tub, or a walk-in tub*

Storage

- *What type of storage will you need in the new bathroom?*

- *Will you need storage for cleaning supplies, toiletries, linens, first aid items, hair appliances or medications?*
- *Do you prefer closet storage over vanity storage?*
- *Do you want medicine cabinets in the vanity area?*
- *Do you desire a bathroom linen closet?*
- *Will you be storing items such as hand towels, towels, washcloths or have a stock on hand of toilet paper, soap, cleaning supplies?*
- *If you choose to have a vanity cabinet, some things to think about are:*
 - *Type of wood*
 - *Painted or stained*
 - *Low profile- 31 ½" height*
 - *Regular height- 34 ½" height*
 - *Master baths usually have a 34 ½" height while hallway or secondary bathrooms typically use a low profile cabinet*

Other Considerations

- *Do you need additional lighting over a shower or bath?*
 - *Do you want lighting around the vanity?*
 - *Wall mounted or recessed lighting ?*
 - *Would you like skylights (solar tubes) installed?*
 - *Relocating lighting (this will require electrical and drywall work)*
 - *Installing or replacing exhaust fan?*
 - *Keeping light fixtures in the same location will of course save you money*
- *Wall coverings:*
 - *Paint, wallpaper, tile or a combination?*
- *Hardware:*
 - *Style and finishes for shower door*
 - *Vanity cabinet knobs*
 - *Sink faucet*
 - *Towel bars*
- *If there is a window, is it ideally situated for ventilation*
 - *Retrofit or standard replacement (Standard replacement involves stucco, siding and drywall repair)*
- *Sinks:*
 - *Do you want your sink mounted or under mounted?*
- *What type of tile and countertop surfaces or vanity top do you want?*
 - *Granite, Tile, Marble Tile, Silestone Tile, other?*
- *Are you going to be replacing the bathroom door?*
 - *Same style?*
 - *Pre hung or replace door using existing door jambs?*
 - *Would you like it painted or stained?*
 - *Hollow or solid core?*
- *Tile selection*
 - *Stone, Marble Tile, Tile that is ceramic or porcelain, other?*
 - *Same tile for the floor and shower enclosure?*

- *Any decorative tile additions?*
- *Shampoo nooks?*
- *Shower seat?*
- *Material and color choices are almost infinite as the price points*
- *Flooring*
 - *Are you using the same material as the tub or shower enclosure?*
 - *Wood or tiled base? Wood base is more cost effective; however tile has a classier look.*
- *Toilet selections:*
 - *Round or elongated?*
 - *White or a special color?*
 - *Prices change dramatically for designer toilets and even the color can change the cost for the fixture*