



# SURVIVING A REMODEL

## A COMPLEX PROCESS

### Achieving a Smooth and Successful Remodel



Undergoing a kitchen or bathroom remodel is a complex process, and there are many things for you to think about as a homeowner in order to ensure the smoothness and success of the project. Among these many considerations is how you're going to live comfortably during the remodel itself. You're going to be without your kitchen or bathroom for a while – rooms you and your family use and rely on multiple times each day – and getting by without those spaces can be a trying experience, unless you're prepared.

## TIPS & TRICKS

**Here are some tips to best prepare yourself for surviving a remodel.**

### Pack Your Current Room

Before your current room is torn out, you'll first need to pack up or move all your items. This also serves as a good time to throw out or donate any old materials you no longer need or use. Be sure to label boxes as you're packing up materials to simplify the unpacking process.







### **Protect Your Valuables**

During the demolition and installation process, there will be workers making their way throughout your house with heavy equipment. If there are any valuables in exposed locations that could easily become damaged during the process, they should be secured or relocated for safekeeping.

### **Free Up Space For The Delivery**

The workers will need space to store equipment and materials throughout the course of the project. You should free up room in an area like a garage for them to do this so they can be stored safely as they await installation.

### **Make A Plan For Your Old Cabinets**

Finding a way to reuse your old cabinetry after it's torn out is a great idea – whether that's relocating them to a different place in the house or donating them to a foundation like Habitat for Humanity. You can also ask your contractor or remodel professional if they have or know of any local organizations accepting donations. Any way they can be repurposed rather than disposed of is a smart choice.

# SET UP A TEMPORARY KITCHEN

You'll need a temporary kitchen to use while your real kitchen is under construction.

There are many things to think about in setting up a temporary kitchen, including:

- **Location** – Another room with a sink or water access is a good choice, such as a laundry room or utility room.
- **Meals** – Meal planning is critical, as well as budgeting for dining out and finding ways to save by using coupons or gift cards.
- **Dishes** – Paper plates and disposable dishware can be a small addition to your budget but can also be a lifesaver in terms of convenience. If you elect to use your everyday dishes, you'll need to have a nearby washing station and space for them.
- **Appliances** – Small appliances like a microwave, crockpot, toaster, or electric griddle can help prepare quick meals in your temporary space.
- **Consider Outdoor Cooking** – An outdoor grill, smoker, or camp stove can be a fantastic alternative cooking option when you're without a stove-top or oven





## COORDINATE WITH THE CREW

Coordination with the team of workers who will be performing your remodel is important to ensure you coexist well with them for the duration of the project.

### Things To Be Considered Include:

- Working hours
- Parking
- Access to the home (key, keypad, lockbox, etc.)
- Restroom usage
- Safety for kids and pets
- Protection of flooring



### Turn Off Your Furnace And A/C (If You Can)

If climate and budget allow, it can be helpful to turn off your furnace or air conditioning during the remodel. Otherwise, dust can sometimes be circulated throughout the house. If this occurs, you should also make sure your ducts are cleaned after installation. Another reason to turn off your furnace/AC is that you could be losing heat and air conditioning since workers will be in and out often, with doors frequently propped open.

---

## GO WITH THE FLOW

The most important thing to know about surviving a remodel is that not everything will go exactly to plan – but taking these steps to prepare puts you in more control and will help you respond to whatever challenges may arise. Keep your focus on the end result – a breathtaking new space you'll have the joy of experiencing for years to come.