

# Things To Consider Before A Bathroom Renovation



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## 1

## Introduction

The bathroom can be one of the most tranquil and relaxing rooms in your home. It can be the reprieve you need from the outside world and the best place to unwind after a long, hard day. Although this is what it should be, many homeowners have less than perfect bathrooms in their current home. In an attempt to bring the tranquility and functionality desired into your bathroom, many choose it as one of the first rooms to remodel in the home. Although this project can bring big reward, there are many things to consider before tackling a bathroom renovation. The following is a guide to help you consider all the weighty options you will face in a bathroom renovation.

## 2

## Determine Your Budget:

Although we all dream of that Pinterest bathroom, it is often not in our budgets to have the exact same items from the picture. Sit down and create a concrete budget and determine how the budget will be split between showers, baths, sinks, cabinets, walls and flooring. Determining these numbers before starting the project will help you stay on budget and prepare you for the costs for certain parts of the bathroom. To help you understand how much money should generally be allotted to each portion of your project, here are some standard numbers from the National Kitchen & Bath Association (NKBA). **We have provided an example of a renovation with a \$10,000 budget, but this can be accomplished on any budget!**

- Design fees: 4% (\$400)
- Installation: 20% (\$2000)
- Fixtures: 15% (\$1500)
- Cabinetry and hardware: 16% (\$1600)
- Countertops: 7% (\$700)
- Lighting and ventilation: 5% (\$500)
- Flooring: 9% (\$900)
- Doors and windows: 4% (\$400)
- Walls and ceilings: 5% (\$500)
- Faucets and plumbing: 14% (\$1400)
- Other: 1% (\$100)

Each project is different, and you may not be interested in a full-blown remodel, which would obviously alter these numbers to fit your needs and desires more closely. If you are not installing new cabinetry and hardware, consider taking that allotted amount and adding it to another portion that is important to you.

## 3

## Functionality

Does your current bathroom setup make the most sense? Do you feel that the sink takes up too much space or the toilet is too close to the shower? Now is the perfect time to reach out to a designer and discuss the ability to redesign your bathroom to optimize the space. A designer can help you change the layout of your bathroom to maximize your space and provide you with a bathroom that has style and functionality all at once. Be sure that the designer is aware of where the piping outlets are for the shower, toilet and sinks; moving piping can add costs to your faucets and plumbing budget if extensions need to be added to reach the new fixtures. Although this may add to the plumbing budget, if it adds space to your bathroom, it may be an ideal option.



## 4

## Prioritizing Products

Do you absolutely want tile flooring in your bathroom? Choosing the higher-end products you definitely want installed in your bathroom ahead of time can help you stay on track with your budget. Luckily, if you are more concerned about the look of the bathroom versus having the most expensive product, there are many different alternatives to choose from for your bathroom.

Flooring is a great way to get a high-end look without blowing the budget. There are many alternatives that can give you the tile or wood appearance you desire, without the tile and wood price. Linoleum, laminate and ceramic tile are all great choices that provide durability, longevity and quality without the price of tile flooring.

The same can be said for showers. If your current shower is structurally sound, a tub enclosure may give you the look you desire without a full shower renovation. Tub enclosures encase your current shower and are installed tightly to eliminate any mold growth in your bathroom.



## 5

## Contractor vs. DIY

There are many variables that will determine if you will be able to complete your entire bathroom project on your own vs. hiring a contractor. This decision will depend mainly on your comfort with Do-It-Yourself (DIY) projects. If you are a DIY professional that feels you can tackle the entire project with research and patience, DIY may be the way for you. If patience and handy work is not your favorite thing, a contractor may be the best option.

If your new bathroom layout includes moving or extending plumbing, we suggest having a plumber at least come to the home and give an overview of your plumbing. Old plumbing can be difficult to work with and potentially cause cracks and leaks once work begins. Unless you are confident in your plumbing abilities, it is suggested that a professional moves or extends plumbing to new fixtures. Spending a little extra here can save you thousands if something were to go wrong.



## 6

## Conclusion

Bathroom renovations can be exciting and extremely rewarding. Understanding and tackling to the many variables of a bathroom renovation before diving into the project can save you from unwanted stress and help your wallet in the process. Want to learn more about bathroom renovations? Visit one of our many Surplus Warehouse stores and speak with our expert partners who are ready and willing to make your bathroom your dream escape!

