

100 NECESSARY DECISIONS &

HOW TO AVOID THE STRESS

100 STRESSFUL DECISIONS HOMEOWNERS FACE WHEN RENOVATING,

PHASE ZERO

BUILDING A HOUSE OR UNDERTAKING A RENOVATION IS A DEMANDING AND STRESSFUL PROCESS. THAT'S WHY WE PROVIDE A COMPREHENSIVE CHECKLIST OF ESSENTIAL TASKS TO FOLLOW ON THE CONSTRUCTION SITE. WE HIGHLY RECOMMEND HIRING A PROFESSIONAL TO ENSURE EVERYTHING RUNS SMOOTHLY AND EFFICIENTLY.

INITIAL CHAOS



- 1. Setting a realistic budget.
- 2. Prioritizing which rooms to renovate first.
- 3. Deciding on a renovation timeline.
- 4. Researching and hiring contractors (how do you choose the right one?).
- 5. Applying for necessary permits and approvals.
- 6. Choosing between DIY or professional help.
- 7. Determining if you should live in or move out during renovations.
- 8. Coordinating schedules with contractors, electricians, plumbers, etc.
- 9. Preparing contingency plans for delays.
- 10. Understanding property regulations and limits.

STRUCTURAL DECISIONS

- 1. Whether to knock down walls for an open plan.
- 2. Moving or relocating load-bearing walls.
- 3. Adjusting ceiling height—do you raise it or leave it?
- 4. Reconfiguring plumbing for new bathrooms or kitchens.
- 5. Deciding on the location of new electrical outlets.
- 6. Adding or enlarging windows for natural light.



- 7. Choosing between wood, steel, or other materials for structural changes.
- 8. Deciding on new room layouts—are they practical?
- 9. Whether to extend the house or stay within the current footprint.
- 10. Making sure structural changes don't exceed the building code.

FLOORING HEADACHES

- 1. Choosing between hardwood, laminate, tile, or vinyl flooring.
- 2. Deciding on a flooring pattern—herringbone, straight lay, etc.
- 3. Matching the flooring with the rest of the design.
- 4.Installing underfloor heating—should you or shouldn't you?
- 5. Budgeting for floor installation costs.
- 6. Choosing a floor colour that won't date.
- 7. Ensuring durability—scratch-resistant or waterproof?
- 8. Refinishing existing floors vs. installing new ones.
- 9. Deciding on transition strips between rooms with different floors.
- 10. Adding area rugs or leaving floors bare.

LIGHTING NIGHTMARES

- 1. What type of lighting—pendant, recessed, track lighting, etc.?
- 2. The placement of each light—will you need an electrician to rewire?
- 3. Task lighting for kitchens, bathrooms, and offices.
- 4. Ambient lighting—does it create the right mood?
- 5.Installing dimmer switches—everywhere or just in certain rooms?
- 6. Choosing energy-efficient lighting—LED, halogen, or incandescent bulbs?
- 7. Adding accent lighting for artwork or architectural features.
- 8. Natural lighting—are your windows positioned for optimal daylight?
- 9. Deciding whether to add skylights for extra light.
- 10. Outdoor lighting—pathways, garden lights, or wall sconces?



KITCHEN DECISIONS

- 1. Choosing the layout—L-shape, U-shape, or galley?
- 2. Deciding on countertop material—quartz, granite, marble, or laminate?
- 3. Cabinets—stock, semi-custom, or fully custom?
- 4. Splashback material and design—tile, glass, or stone?
- 5. Kitchen island—how big? Does it overpower the space?
- 6. Appliances—stainless steel, black, or integrated?
- 7. Sink placement—undermount, farmhouse, or double sink?
- 8. Storage—how much space for pantry items, pots, and utensils?
- 9. Ventilation—ducted hood, downdraft, or no ventilation?
- 10. Should you include a breakfast bar or eat-in area?

BATHROOM BREAKDOWN

- 1. Deciding between a bathtub, a walk-in shower, or both.
- 2. Tile selection—ceramic, porcelain, or marble?
- 3. Vanity size and style—double or single sink?
- 4.Bathroom storage—do you need custom shelving or cabinets?
- 5. Choosing taps and fixtures—modern, vintage, or industrial?
- 6.Bathtub material—acrylic, cast iron, or stone?
- 7. Showerhead design—rainfall, handheld, or multi-jet?
- 8.Installing heated towel rails.
- 9.Plumbing—can you move the toilet, or is it fixed?
- 10. Mirrors—backlit, large, or statement piece?

PAINT PARALYSIS

- 1. Choosing the right paint colour for each room.
- 2. Deciding on paint finishes—matte, eggshell, or gloss?
- 3. Accent walls—should you add them or stick with a uniform colour scheme?
- 4. Deciding whether to paint the ceiling or leave it white.
- 5. Picking colours that flow from one room to another.
- 6.Ensuring that paint colours work with the lighting in the space.
- 7. Whether to hire a professional painter or DIY.
- 8. Dealing with potential painting errors—uneven coats, streaks, etc.
- 9.Deciding on trim and baseboard colour—do you contrast or match?
- 10. Repainting or stripping down old wooden doors.



DOORS & WINDOWS

- 1. Selecting door styles—French doors, sliding, or pocket doors?
- 2.Door material—wood, glass, metal?
- 3.Door hardware-brushed nickel, brass, or matte black?
- 4. Deciding on the size and type of windows—sash, casement, or tilt-turn?
- 5. Should you replace or refurbish existing windows?
- 6. Choosing double or triple glazing for energy efficiency.
- 7. Window frame materials—wood, aluminum, or uPVC?
- 8. Window treatments—curtains, blinds, or shutters?
- 9. Deciding whether to add more windows for natural light.
- 10.Installing screens for windows—fixed or removable?



PLUMBING & ELECTRICAL PUZZLES

- 1. Relocating plumbing for kitchens and bathrooms.
- 2.Deciding on water heater upgrades—tankless or traditional?
- 3. Installing a new boiler or upgrading the existing one.
- 4. Moving electrical outlets to new locations.
- 5. Adding under-cabinet lighting in the kitchen.
- 6. Upgrading the home's electrical panel to handle more load.
- 7. Choosing smart home features—lighting, thermostats, or security systems?
- 8. Ventilation—where do you place exhaust fans in bathrooms and kitchens?
- 9. Choosing the right type of radiator or underfloor heating system.
- 10. Installing additional circuit breakers for new appliances.



FURNITURE & DÉCOR DECISIONS

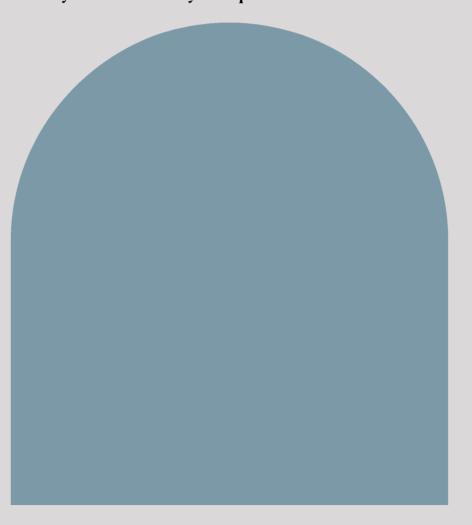
- 1. What style of furniture—modern, traditional, or eclectic?
- 2. Choosing between bespoke furniture or off-the-shelf.
- 3. Matching furniture with your chosen colour palette.
- 4. Deciding on the size and placement of furniture in each room.
- 5. Choosing upholstery fabric—leather, velvet, or cotton?
- 6.Artwork placement—how many pieces, and where do they go?
- 7.Rugs—what size, material, and pattern?
- 8. Accent pillows, throws, and cushions—coordinating them with the room.
- 9. Wall decor—do you install shelves, hang art, or go minimalist?
- 10. Choosing a cohesive look for the final touches—plants, vases, lighting.

IMPORTANT **

DON'T PANIC

Renovating a house is not easy; there are many mandatory steps to follow, and managing them without the support of a professional can be very worrying and stressful. That's why we provide a comprehensive checklist of essential tasks to follow on the construction site.

Contact us if you need any help with it.



CONTACT



133 CREEK ROAD, SE8 3BU

+44 (0) 2037937756 -

+44 (0) 7449745698

CONTACT@BD-PHASE-ZERO.CO.UK