

Home remodel planning during a pandemic



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Did they leave trash everywhere at the end of the day? Are they careful with your outdoor landscape? But keep in mind renovation is a messy job, things will get damaged, this is not the time to plant \$2,000 of perennials only to get them trampled on.

8) Make sure you get your contractors schedule on what he needs and when he needs it. There is nothing worse than a job getting held up because you didn't know he needed the faucet before the countertops are selected and fabricated. Having all your selections ahead of time and ready before he needs them will make for a very happy GC. Also keep in mind we are in the middle of a global pandemic; things take twice as long to come in.

9) Have a budget buffer. Things will always cost more than what you expected. Let me say that again, *things will always cost more than what you expected*. Surprise expenses always pop up. That wall they just tore down revealed a leaky pipe or mold or crappy electrical wiring. I like to suggest have at least 15% and closer to 25% more than your estimated budget to save you from these unexpected "gifts."

10) Take a deep breath and remind yourself this is only temporary; patience and a sense of humor go a long way. Also, don't forget to take photos throughout the project. Having before and after photos are always fun to look back on and help create a history of the project.

I hope these tips help ease some of the stress and chaos of home renovation. I have yet to have a client come back and say, "I regret doing this." It's always, "I wish we had done this sooner."

Until next time, friends!

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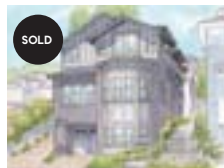
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As the Owner and Principal Designer of Lamorinda-based Amanda Carol Interiors, Amanda Eck believes your home's interior should be both approachable and well-appointed. She often asserts, "Beauty is a necessity."

With a distinct sense of style that mixes contemporary and classic design she fashions spaces that are both elegant and inviting. Her design aesthetic is inspired by anything visual but especially fashion, architecture and art.

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