

A Homeowner's Guide to Surviving the Chaos



Living in a home that is being remodeled or renovated can be an emotional roller coaster. There can be some real highs and lows as your home is being transformed. It

helps if you know what to expect.

You need to know that the excitement of watching your dreams come true will be tempered by construction noise, dust and general confusion that would try anyone's patience. There will be days when you can't believe how much was accomplished ... and days when it seems there was no progress at all. Days when you feel no one can make a move without you ... and days when you feel like an intruder in your own home.

But take heart. With plenty of realistic planning, patience, good communication and a bit of humor, you will survive it ... and it will all be worth it in the end.

*Dream.
Design.
Build.
Enjoy.*



*Living in a
Construction
ZONE*



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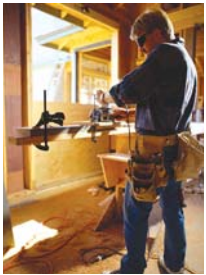
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Tips

to make the whole process easier to live with.



Expect the project to take longer than you think it should. It's impossible to anticipate everything that may need to be fixed during the project. Give us plenty of time to do our

jobs right. And don't start planning your unveiling party until after the work is completed.

Establish a good rapport with your project supervisor and lead carpenter, and talk to them if you have questions or concerns about how things are going.

Expect to take some time off from work for periodic construction consultations, inspections, etc. We will try to accommodate your schedule with early-morning and late-afternoon meetings as much as possible.



Plan not to use the area being remodeled for the duration of the project. You cannot cook, eat, sleep or bathe in a construction zone. Don't even try.

If you're remodeling a kitchen, set up a mini kitchen in a bathroom, laundry room or any other room that has power for cooking (microwave and appliances) and water for cleaning up.

Plan easy meals with foods you can grill outside, microwave, or use with disposable dishware.

Clip restaurant coupons and eat out a lot.

Keep young children occupied away from home. There are all kinds of free or low-cost activities for children. Check with your local library, city, parks and beaches, churches, etc.

Take weekend getaways. Even a few days away will help you relax and increase your patience.

Schedule a family vacation. There will be times when your presence is simply not needed. Take off for some special family time. You'll be amazed at the progress that was made while you were gone.



Get out of the house every day. If you work outside the home, this is easy. If not, find things to do away from home. Volunteer your time. Discover museums. Call friends for lunch. Shape up at the club. Catch up on reading at the library. Take long walks.

Pamper your pets. Remodeling can be hard on pets, especially those that are territorial. Be sure to give them extra attention and reassurance. Give them a quiet place of their own, away from all activity. Take them along on your outings whenever you can.

Focus on the outcome. It can be hard to remember the dream when you feel like you're in the midst of a nightmare. But you will survive it. And when it all comes together in the end, you'll know it was all worth it.

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Let's get started. Call us today!

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