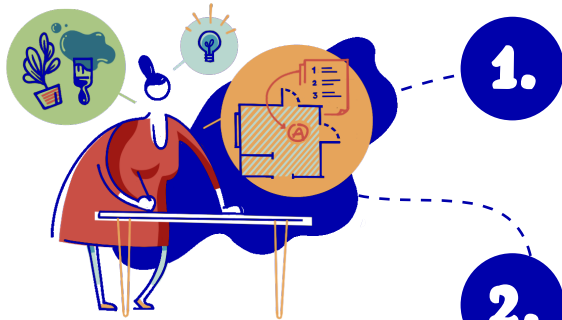


# Home Improvement Planning Guide



1.

## Create a Project Plan

- Write out your goals for the project.
- Sketch an outline of your room.
- Get inspiration for your project.

2.

## Set a Budget

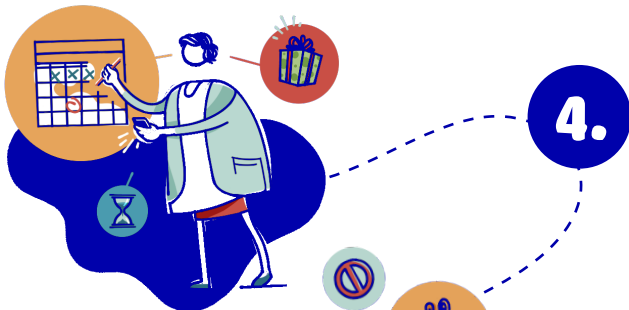
- Decide how much you want to spend on your project. Set aside at least 10% for any unexpected expenses.
- Check your local building guidelines to see if you need permits.
- Get bids from contractors.



3.

## Hire a Contractor

- Don't hire a contractor based on price alone.
- Check their references.
- Ask how long have they been in business.
- Are they licensed and insured?
- Discuss terms of payment.  
Hint: Don't pay everything upfront.



4.

## Build Your Timeline

- Work with your contractor to set a completion date.
- Back out individual deadlines from your completion date.
- Include time for cleaning out the work area.
- Allow for materials shipping and prep time.
- Account for any holidays during your project time or other dates your contractor may not work.



5.

## Prep the Work Area

- Pack up everything in the area under construction.
- Make sure to store anything that you may need so that it's easily accessible.
- Plan to avoid the room entirely while under construction.

**Bonus Tip:** Over-communicate with your contractor. Always ask plenty of questions.