



Home Remodeling Around Your Busy Lifestyle

A practical guide to remodeling when you
have other important things to manage

Committed to Building Better Lives at Home

Neal's Design Remodel has been a staple in the Cincinnati remodeling environment for over 50 years. We've learned a thing or two about how to work with our clients to transform their spaces and positively impact their lives. Our robust remodeling process prioritizes planning and client experience and then delivers top-notch design and carpentry work that lasts.

Neal's is proud to be a family-owned and operated company (going on three generations now) along with employing some of the best talent in the region in project management, design, and construction.

We invite you to learn more about our company and work on our website at NEALS.COM



Remodeling shouldn't put your entire life on hold.

Making major changes to your home will always be a big project with a big impact on your life, but you have other things going on that can't wait for the work to be completed. Whether you've got a family to take care of, a career that requires your full attention, or other important commitments that you need to prioritize, we know that a remodel can't completely take over.

Luckily there are many strategies and tips for getting through any type of home renovation project more efficiently and effectively as a person with a busy lifestyle. From being conscientious about communication, to trusting the process, there are many ways you can make sure you're managing the project well on your end so your remodeling team can provide you with the best results on theirs.

We've taken a look at the whole remodeling process (when working with a full-service remodeling team like ours) and identified several areas where a little attention and foresight on your part can greatly impact how smoothly your project will go in the midst of your daily life and routines.

We can't account for all situations, however, so be aware that the suggestions in this guide are just a starting point. A great remodeling experience comes from having great, open communication with the team you're working with. If you have scheduling or lifestyle consideration needs that go beyond what's covered here, be sure to talk through those with your remodeler as well.



Understanding Scheduling Timelines & Expectations

Before you get too far into the conversation with your remodeler, it's important that you do two things: familiarize yourself with how long your remodeling project might take, and compare that to your calendar.

Make sure you know if there are any life-related events, trips or changes that may happen during the course of your remodeling project. Will you be traveling or unavailable for a length of time? Will your kids be home on a school break, or your parents visiting from out of town? Will you be getting a new pet soon? All of these things are important to know so that as you talk through your project scheduling with your team, you can be clear about what you know will be happening in your life.

While it may take many weeks before the construction begins in your home,

you'll have several things to do with your remodeler leading up to that. There are many planning and design meetings that happen ahead of the work. The more you can work with your team to be available for these, the smoother your pre-construction process will go.

Depending on the project you're doing, the construction phase can be a few weeks to a few months. We highly recommend heading to our website to review our remodeling timeline expectations information to see how long your project may take to complete.

The important thing to remember is that if you become unavailable while there are still questions you need to answer or approvals you need to provide, your project can't proceed.

Assessing Your Needs & Priorities

As you begin talking with your remodeler about the project you have in mind, it helps if you already understand what you're going to be asking for. The more clarity you can have about the scope and purpose of your project, the easier it will be for your team to get on board and catch up with your train of thought.

That's not to suggest that you need to have all the answers. In fact, we don't recommend that you try that since there are so many factors that go into a remodel and you won't be able to account for it all on your own. What we mean instead is that you take the time to really get a grasp on what you want to achieve and what you really need to happen in your new space.

When you can communicate to your project consultant and designer

what you feel is the most important to you and what you hope will be the result of your remodel, they will be able to better springboard off this on their own to create a functional plan and budget. In the longer term, this will mean fewer adjustments and changes so that you can approve your project sooner.

Change orders and budget reconciliation is inevitable, though. It's crucial that you remain flexible, communicative and patient, even if you were incredibly clear about your project goals from the start. If a product you selected suddenly become unavailable or there's an issue with something in your home that was a complete surprise to everyone, it's important that you shift your expectations along with your team and be ready to express what your new priorities have become.

Streamlining the Design Process

Communication and trust are key when working efficiently with a remodeling designer. Be ready to share your vision, preferences, and specific requirements clearly. Maintain an open dialogue throughout the design phase, providing feedback and asking questions as needed. Remember, your designer is there to help bring your vision to life, so don't hesitate to express your thoughts and concerns.

It's also essential to trust the expertise of your team and embrace the creative process. Your designer will have years of experience and industry knowledge to bring to the table, so you can trust their judgment and recommendations. Often times, they're not able to show you everything as it will exist in your space, but they'll do their best. Be willing to defer to their expertise when necessary. By trusting the process, you can achieve the best possible outcome for your remodeling project.





Managing Your Part of the Project Efficiently

Your remodeling team will be taking care of most of the project management, but you'll still have plenty to keep track of on your end along with your home to manage while the work is taking place. Stay organized by keeping track of important documents, deadlines, and milestones. Consider using a to-do app on your phone to help you stay on top of important tasks you need to complete for your team or deadlines for decisions you need to make. Have a central place for all project-related information, including contracts, permits, and design plans, to ensure easy access when needed.

Collaborating with a comprehensive remodeling team will streamline the project and ensure that every aspect is handled with expertise. Establish your preferred method of communication with your remodeling

team and the carpenters who will be working in your home. They'll need to know the fastest way to contact you if issues come up. Regularly communicate any updates on your end, and be willing to be clear and transparent about your schedule and availability to ensure everyone is on the same page.

Before work begins at your home, discussions with your team will help clarify and address typical concerns so that you can focus on your life and family while work is happening. Logistical details such as pets in the home, work or school hours, where the team can enter, and anticipated timelines will be established. Ask about potential disruptions to your daily routine so they are handled up front. Clear communication early can help prevent misunderstandings and ensure a successful project outcome.

Minimizing Stress & Disruptions

As much as your remodeling team will do all they can to make the process of improving your home as smooth as possible, it won't be "life as normal" for a little while. You should have high expectations for how easy your remodeler will make it for you, but you'll still want to have some strategies in place for stress management and safety.

During the renovation, designate temporary living spaces where you can retreat from the chaos to maintain some sense of normalcy. If you're having your kitchen redone, set up a makeshift kitchenette with essential appliances. Also ensure easy access to essential amenities such as bathrooms and laundry facilities. By maintaining spaces for your daily life, you can minimize disruptions and retain a semblance of routine.

Talk to your remodeling team to address any concerns or issues as soon as they arise. It's better to ask questions rather than continue along while worrying that something isn't going right. Address concerns or potential issues promptly to prevent them from escalating into larger problems. By fostering a collaborative relationship with your team, you can ensure that the project stays on track and meets your expectations.

Don't forget self-care and safety throughout the remodeling process. Take breaks from your home when needed. Prioritize habits that ease stress. Ensure that safety protocols are followed on the construction site to minimize the risk of accidents or injuries. By taking care of yourself and prioritizing safety, you can navigate the process with greater ease and peace of mind.

Preparing for Completion & Beyond

Before considering your remodeling project complete, be ready to work closely with your team wrap up any final needs. Conduct a thorough walk-through of the renovated areas, noting anything that requires attention or adjustments.

As the remodeling project draws to a close, it's time to prepare for the transition back to your regular routines and living spaces. Take the time to organize and declutter before bringing things back into the newly renovated areas. Consider implementing new storage solutions and organizational systems to

maintain order and functionality in your updated space. Prepare to reintegrate these areas into your daily life, adjusting furniture layouts and routines as needed to accommodate the changes.

Your remodeling project represents a significant investment of time, money, and effort, so it's essential to take steps to protect and preserve it for years to come. Be sure you understand any warranty or service programs your remodeler offers, and that you take the time to understand how to maintain the look and quality of all the work that was done.





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[neals.com](https://www.neals.com)

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