

GINA LAUREN INTERIORS

PRE-PROJECT RENOVATION GUIDE

WELCOME TO OUR PRE-PROJECT GUIDE. WHEN PLANNING FOR YOUR DESIGN AND RENOVATION PROJECT, ITS IMPORTANT THAT YOU HAVE TAKEN ALL THE IMPORTANT STEPS TO PREPARE FOR YOUR UPCOMING PROJECT. AT GINA LAUREN INTERIORS, WE WANT TO BRING YOU INVALUABLE INFORMATION SO THAT YOU CAN MAKE THE BEST DECISIONS REGARDING YOUR HOME DESIGN PROJECT.

WHETHER YOU ARE REMODELING A BATHROOM, KITCHEN OR MULTIPLE ROOMS, OR PLANNING FOR NEW FURNISHINGS, THIS GUIDE IS SURE TO COME IN HANDY. YOU'LL FIND INFORMATION ON HOW TO SET A REALISTIC BUDGET, WHAT TO LOOK FOR WHEN SELECTING YOUR DESIGN TEAM, COLLECTING SOURCE INSPIRATION AND MORE. READ BELOW TO FIND OUT HOW YOU CAN PREPARE AND PLAN FOR YOUR UPCOMING PROJECT IN THIS PRE-PROJECT GUIDE.



PRE-PROJECT GUIDE

So you've decided to start a new design project? Whether it's a home remodel, renovation, or furnishing and decorating your new space, the pre-planning before you even knock down that wall or buy that sofa will help make your project that much easier for when you do kick off your design project. So what is the first step to tackle for your project planning?

01 DECIDE WHAT KIND OF PROJECT YOU WANT TO START

Remodel

If you're planning on doing a kitchen or bath remodel, then your project is going to look very different than someone who is doing furnishings and decor. With a remodel, you're going to need someone to help with the build for your project, and that is usually a licensed General Contractor, as well as an architect or engineer and the interior designer.

Renovation

A renovation involves multiple rooms in a house and also involves a General Contractor for the build, as well as several trades that will be doing the work, and also involves an architect, engineer and interior designer.

Furnishings + Decor

Do you have a room or an entire home that needs new updated furnishings? Or how about window coverings for privacy and light control?



PRE-PROJECT GUIDE

02

DO YOUR RESEARCH

When working on a project, you want to start gathering as much information as you can. Start talking to friends and family who have done similar projects as yours. Create a digital board of your ideas.

Start looking at items for your project that will need to be incorporated, such as tile, flooring, furnishings, etc. Get an idea of what is out there so that you can create the basis of the overall design direction you'd like to go in.

Start getting an idea of General Contractors, Architects and Interior Designers in your area that do the kind of work that you like, to begin assembling your design team. Follow them on social media so that you know how they work and what their processes are like. Read reviews and get suggestions from family and friends as well. The more research you can do now, the better prepared you will be.

Inspiration Sources

Family and Friends
Pinterest
Houzz
Instagram

Design Team

Architects
General Contractors
Engineers
Interior Designer



03 BUDGETING YOUR FINANCIALS

Many people do not know what it costs to take on a home design project. Remodeling costs can be all over the place and vary greatly due to the size of the project, the scope, materials, and delivery and install timelines. In addition, creating a budget that you can work with is crucial and many homeowners do not know how to do that. If you're working with an interior designer, they'll help you to bring all the pieces together. Some of the first things you'll want to figure out is if you're going to be self-financing, or bank financing, or a combination of the two. To help guide you with overall costs, you can head over to my Good Better Best Investment Guide to get an idea of project costs.

Financials

Bank Financing
Owner Financing
Combination



O4

GATHER INSPIRATION

Once you've decided on your project type and financials, you'll want to start gathering inspiration for your project. Inspiration in the form of images, is a very helpful way to convey your design vision. This can be anything that catches your eye and can be found literally anywhere and everywhere. For digital inspiration, we like to use Houzz and Pinterest. Once we begin finding our source inspiration, we can create files or folders with similar or like images to collect even more imagery. This is a great way to keep your inspiration organized and can be a wonderful source for your designer and architect.

Inspiration

Houzz

Pinterest

Magazines

Photos

Friends and Family

Travels

Heirlooms



05

TIMELINE

Figuring out the best time to start your project depends on several factors. Are you having an upcoming birthday that you'd like your project completed by? Or are you waiting for a big promotion to help with the financing of your project? Your timeline and that of your design team are integral to your project's success. While you might have a timeline that the project needs to be completed by, keep in mind that what you want or need is probably very different from those of your GC, or designer. Oftentimes, the realities of how long a project will realistically take may not meet your timeline objectives. When talking to your design team, you'll want to make sure that you are all on the same page about the overall project length and duration. In reality, design can take quite a while, especially given the amount of options that are out there. And building can take a while too, given the permitting process, availability of raw materials and supplies, and trade availability. Talking to your general contractor will help you determine when the ideal time is to start your project.



06

ASSEMBLING YOUR TEAM

Finally, you'll want to begin assembling your project team right away. Armed with great information from all the inside scoop of this Project Guide, you'll be ready and confident to start interviewing your team. Because the designer, architect and general contractor usually work hand in hand together, you'll most likely get some great referrals and sources from each, for putting together your design team. One of the first places you'll want to start is with your designer. When the project begins, the design is the first thing that must be solidified before any construction can take place. And that means bringing on board your interior designer. With a strong professional in your corner, your designer can advocate for you, introduce you to good architects and contractors that will keep your project smooth sailing.

Your Design Team

Interior Designer

Architect

Contractor

