

7 RULES TO STAY SANE WHEN REMODELING YOUR HOME

REMODELING A HOUSE CAN BE EXCITING BUT STRESSFUL UNDERTAKING!

Your house is invaded by construction workers and you are at the mercy of contractors to pull it all together (and keep you from pulling out your hair!)

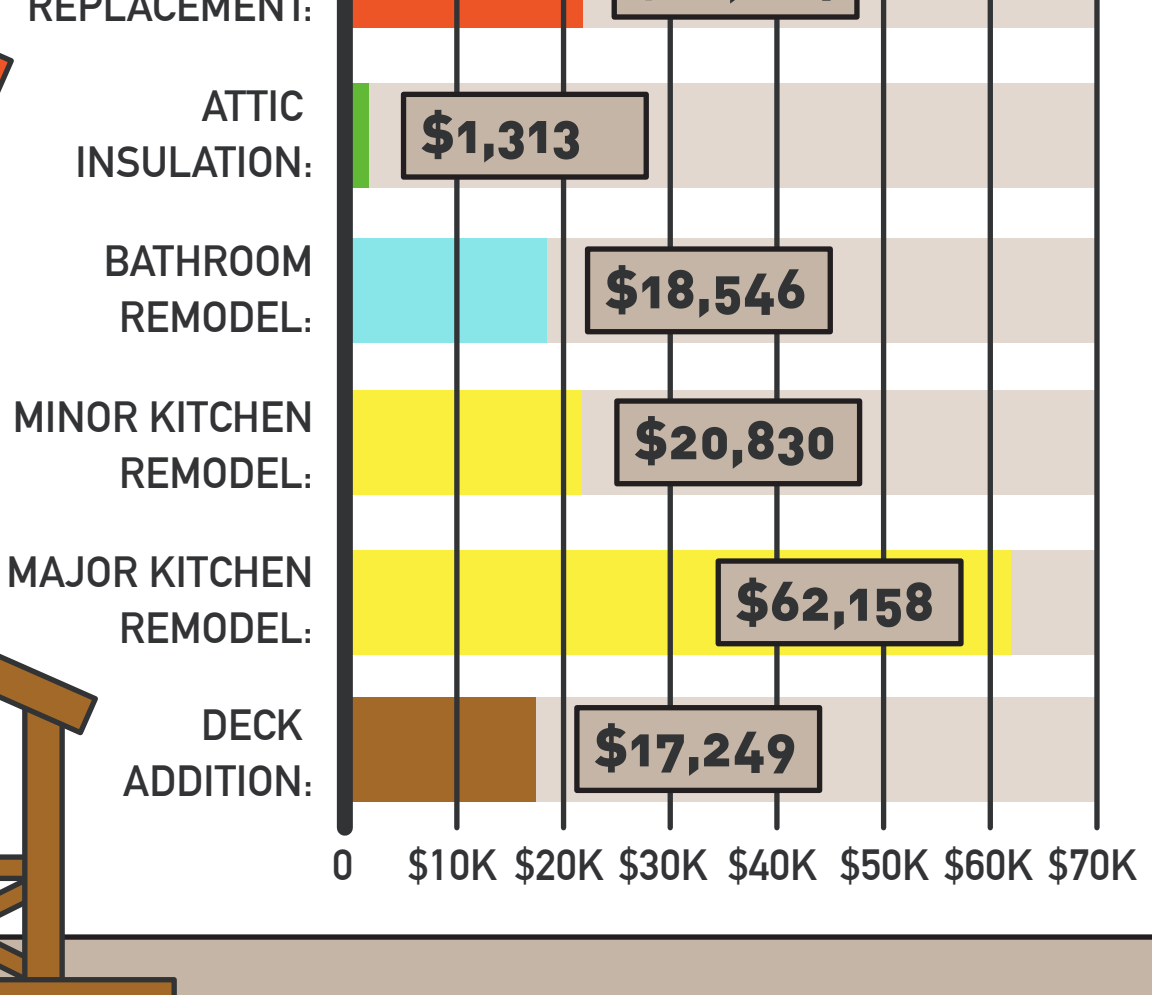
HERE HOW YOU CAN STAY SANE:

RULE #1. PLAN AHEAD

YOU NEED...

- A COMPLETE LIST OF REPAIRS AND REPLACEMENTS.
- ACCURATE MEASUREMENTS OF YOUR HOME.
- A REALISTIC BUDGET. DON'T BE CHEAP ON MATERIALS!

AVERAGE COSTS OF REMODELING PROJECTS..



RULE #2. GET THE RIGHT HELP

HIRE A CONTRACTOR WHO...

- HAS MORE THAN 3 YEARS OF EXPERIENCE
- A GOOD RECORD WITH THE BETTER BUSINESS BUREAU
- POSITIVE CUSTOMER REFERENCES
- CAN PROVIDE A DETAILED CONTRACT INCLUDING COST OF MATERIALS, TIMELINES, AND DELIVERABLES

RULE #3. CHECK SAFETY AND ELECTRICITY

KEEP A DESIGNATED AREA FOR CHILDREN AND PETS.

BEWARE OF TOXIC MATERIALS WHEN DEMOLITIONING SUCH AS..

- MERCURY
- POLYCHLORINATED BIPHENYLS (PCBS)
- LEAD
- ASBESTOS

- HANG PLASTIC SHEETS OR TARPS AROUND WORK AREAS
- CHECK WITH A ELECTRICIAN ON TIPS FOR INSTALLING NEW OUTLETS. ELECTRICITY IS ONE OF THE MOST COMMON HIDDEN COSTS OF REMODELING!

RULE #4. SECURE PERMITS

A PERMIT IS NEEDED FOR...

- NEW CONSTRUCTION
- ADDITIONS
- MAJOR RENOVATIONS
- STRUCTURAL CHANGES
- ELECTRICAL, PLUMBING, AND MECHANICAL WORK

THE AVERAGE HOMEOWNER SPENDS **\$454 - \$2,053** ON A PERMIT FOR A REMODEL

RULE #5. CONSTRUCTION WORK ETIQUETTE

- ALWAYS OFFER COFFEE AND WATER.
- LESS THAN 15% OF HOMEOWNERS TIP THEIR WORKERS.
- MOST HOMEOWNERS ALLOW WORKERS TO USE GUEST BATHROOMS.
- MOST HOMEOWNERS ALLOW SMOKE BREAKS, BUT ABOUT 10% WOULD PREFER TO HIRE NON-SMOKING WORKERS.

RULE #6. GO GREEN

- DECREASE YOUR ENERGY-LOSS
- DECREASE YOUR CARBON FOOTPRINT
- INCREASE YOUR HOME'S VALUE

- CHOOSE GREEN BUILDING MATERIALS FOR SUSTAINABILITY.
- INVEST IN ENERGY RENEWABLES (LIKE SOLAR) FOR A HIGHER ROI

RULE #7. COMMUNICATION

KEEP AN OPEN LINE OF COMMUNICATION BETWEEN YOU AND CONTRACTOR; WHEN SOMETHING GOES WRONG- YOU'LL BE GLAD YOU DID!

SOURCES

- <http://www.remodeling.hw.net/cost-vs-value/2017/>
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- <http://realtormag.realtor.com/improvement/news/2015/10/13/infographic-home-improvement-etiquette>
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- <http://www.hgtv.com/design/decorating/clean-and-organize/top-25-biggest-renovating-mistakes-pictures>
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