



## The Project Begins!

### *How to prepare and what to expect for your remodel...*

Congratulations! You've done all the work and now your remodel is about to begin! Now it's time to consider the impact that the remodeling process will have on your home and life-style. Here are some things you can do to minimize the disruption you will experience:

- **Set up a temporary kitchen in another part of the home** - A microwave, hot plate, toaster-oven and coffee-maker will take care of basic needs. A crock-pot can be a big help too. Stock up on paper plates and consider eating out for some meals, as your kitchen sink will not be working for a while. Be prepared to have an alternative sink option – it can be an old wash basin, a bathtub or powder room. Just have a plan! Keep your old refrigerator around until the end of the remodel as well if possible.
- **Clean out your old cabinets** – Discard items you no longer need (how old are those spices?). Reico packing boxes will help! Label all your packed boxes and set aside the must halves for your temporary kitchen.
- **Remove items from areas adjacent to the remodel space** – wall art, decorative items, mirrors, etc. Drywall dust is invasive and will spread with hammering and drilling. The installer will make every effort to control it but it will spread. Plan to change your furnace filter often during the remodel and turn the furnace fan off.
- **Create a staging area for your new products** – close to the work area and in a climate controlled area to avoid the possibility of cabinets warping. Direct the delivery to this area once materials arrive.
- **Be ready to be available or on site at times for important questions/decisions** – make sure you are accessible by phone or email to your designer and installer for questions or issues that come up. It is not necessary to be on site everyday for the project. A lock box can be used or other arrangements made to allow workers access while you are away. There will be key days, in addition to the product delivery date, that you or another decision maker should be onsite including when the countertop is being templated and when the countertop is being installed.
- **Expect the unexpected** – there can be pre-existing or hidden conditions that will affect the installation such as water damage, hidden ductwork, wiring problems, etc. and will need to be addressed before the work can progress. Correcting these may require additional labor charges and add to the time frame for your job. There may also be product damages, mistakes, etc. In some cases material lead times can be several weeks, even for re-ordered materials. We will always work diligently to resolve any issues in a timely manner.
- **Avoid planning a major event that coincides with your remodel** – *Remodeling is disruptive to your home life and is a process that requires time.* Initial start to completion estimates are just that. Change orders, hidden problems, product re-order, countertop templates or installation and inspections can all act to extend the length of the process. There may be days when no one is working in the home. Communication with your designer and installer should minimize any surprises.
- **Communicate concerns** - You may notice a crooked door or a roll-out tray that sticks some when you pull it. These usually require minor adjustments that occur at the end of the re-model. Your Designer will help create a punch list to include what you notice and what you may have missed. Upon completion of the punch list we will walk the job together to ensure you total satisfaction.
- **Change orders** - *In the course of the remodel you may decide to have additional work done. If that is the case, contact the installation manager and/or the designer with your request.* A **change order** will be created for the work stating what will be done and at what cost. Your signed approval and payment in full for the change will be required before the work will be scheduled. *The carpenter, electrician, plumber, flooring installer, tile setter, etc. in your home are not authorized to quote or perform the additional work without the signed change order.* Change orders may also extend out the completion date.

**Most importantly, keep the end in sight! The day will come when the project is finished and the new room is yours to enjoy! Following these tips listed above can help make sure your experience is the best it can be.**