

Home Project Quick-Start Guide

A short checklist for planning a DIY job — from measuring to ordering materials. Always follow local building codes and get permits where required; hire a licensed professional for structural, electrical or gas work.

1 · Measure twice

Measure every area in the same unit and sketch it. Split odd shapes into rectangles and triangles, then add them up.

2 · Add a waste allowance

Order extra for cuts and breakage: commonly about 5–10% for flooring and tile (more for diagonal layouts) and 10% for concrete.

3 · Get at least three quotes

Log each quote in the renovation planner so you compare like for like (materials, labour, timeline, warranty).

4 · Keep a contingency

Set aside 10–20% of the budget for surprises found once work starts.

5 · Schedule in order

Typical order: demolition → rough work → drywall → paint → flooring → fixtures. Put each step in the Gantt planner.

Your worksheet

Material	Quantity	Unit price	Total
Concrete / base			
Lumber			
Drywall			
Paint			
Flooring / tile			
Fasteners			

Free calculators that go with this pack: Concrete calculator (<https://buildtally.pages.dev/concrete-calculator/>) · Square footage calculator (<https://buildtally.pages.dev/square-footage-calculator/>) · Paint calculator (<https://buildtally.pages.dev/paint-calculator/>) · Tile calculator (<https://buildtally.pages.dev/tile-calculator/>)
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