

## 5 Things Your Renovator Wants You To Consider Before The Starting Gun Sounds (Guest Post)

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*Nashville based restoration guru, [Derek Van Mol](#), knows that understanding a client's vision for their home is a big part of the restoration process. In fact, his restoration business takes a close partnership approach from the start. The singular goal is making your house the home you want it to be.*

Chances are if you are considering a home or room renovation, you have already spent time culling ideas from websites like [Houzz](#) and [Pinterest](#). The renovation boom is very much in bloom. Many homeowners love the idea of home improvement- both for their own personal enjoyment and as a smart investment. There are definite considerations before starting a renovation. Before the drills start buzzing, the paint gets ordered, or the tiles are shipped from the manufacturer, there are 5 great things to consider that can make your renovation process a success. These ideas can apply to a kitchen renovation just as much as an outdoor living area.



Before: This kitchen lacked space and was in desperate need of renovation.

### 1. Examine the space.

First and foremost, consider kitchen function over form. The form and aesthetics will follow. We can all agree that the kitchen is the heart of the home. Will the living room or great room be merged into the kitchen area? Will everyday dining take place in the space? Is a formal dining space important to your family? Do your kids do homework at the table? Is there enough maneuvering space for two cooks in the kitchen? This helps the execution phase go smoothly. The last thing you want is a beautiful kitchen that is not user-friendly.

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After: With help from Van Mol Restoration, this kitchen gained storage, workspace, and beauty!

## 2. Appliances

One of the first parts of a successful renovation equation is establishing which appliances will be used. This will allow the designer to provide several different options for the space around those appliances. Design considerations are often based around the appliance dimensions themselves. Do you want that ice maker you have had your eye on for years? For it to be housed in a seamless, attractive manner, measurements are necessary upfront.



Many homeowners start a remodeling project because a big appliance needs to be replaced. We love being able to help homeowners elevate their culinary experience for their family and friends. Proper selection of refrigeration, for instance incorporating Sub-Zero into your project, could save hundred of dollars in grocery purchases on a yearly basis. Energy efficiency is also key for families and the environment. Energy Star appliances are key. The truth is that cooking at home usually equates to a healthier lifestyle. That is a priceless WIN for everyone.

## 3. Got stuff? Need storage!

Clutter has a detrimental effect on all homeowners eventually. This is why storage consideration is paramount during the renovation process. Drawers need to be reachable as do pots and pans. We like unique places and solutions for necessary items like cling wrap, foil, and paper towels. Need spice storage? Want a plate or pot rack? There are ways to incorporate all of these into a kitchen in a way that is both functional and pleasing to the eye.

## 4. Resale

All renovation projects are great for the family who lives in the home and reaps the benefits of the additions. There is also the family who may call the place home when your family moves out. Will you be living in the home for a

short term (possibly 3-5 years) or do you plan to stay longer? If your answer is short term, make sure to keep the new design easy for various lifestyles and age groups. Incorporate perks like Sub-zero refrigeration and superb storage when possible. It will separate your home from the rest when it comes time to start the next chapter in a new home. Not to mention, you will profit greatly during resale!



Before: A large, empty cabinet in the kitchen had no purpose and was a waste of space

## 5. Budget and timeframe

How much can you spend and how long are you prepared for your space to be “under construction”? Do you require a working kitchen during the renovation process? How much can you spend without falling into the undesirable realm of buyer’s remorse and debt? Keep all these questions in mind and be up front with your builder from the get-go so that they can honor your requests in a timely way without breaking the bank. Renovations- when done well- can be FUN and can actually make you money in the long run!



After: By replacing the empty cabinet with a breakfast bar and upper cabinets, the kitchen is now much more functional.

The immediate goal is obviously to create a great space in which everyone can eat, drink, be merry, share stories of school days and make memories. [Van Mol Restoration](#) loves watching this dream come true for families.

[To learn more about Van Mol Restoration or to inquire of their services, visit their website.](#)

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