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How to prepare for a modular home addition

DEVON GLEED

Undergoing a substantial home renovation can be a stressful and overwhelming process.

We spoke with Vladeta Jericevic, President and CEO of Modular Home Additions and discussed how his customers can prepare themselves and their homes for a smooth renovation with his company.

For almost 20 years, Modular Home Additions has completed nearly 1,000 projects, where they have updated and reconstructed homes into their customer's dream designs.

If you have a desire to enhance your home's curb appeal and expand on the home's initial structure with little stress compared to a traditional standard renovation, a Modular Home Addition is the perfect option for you.

Jericevic states that compared to a traditional renovation company, his is a larger organization with a system-oriented approach to projects, resulting in a better organized and faster process of building, resulting in less work and stress for the homeowner.

Once you've decided you want to undergo this process, you'll have quite a few meetings with the team at Modular Home Additions to create the home of your dreams. The creative freedom you're given when designing your home is immense.

"[The word] 'Modular' has a lot of different meanings and working with modular elements doesn't necessarily mean that you'll minimize the ability to design whatever is structurally possible. If it's designed and stamped... We can build it," says Jericevic.

The next few things to take into consideration when you're going to undergo a drastic home renovation is the time that needs to be allocated for each step that needs to be taken in order to create your home. Jericevic insists carving out time for; the design stage, pre-approval (zoning certificate), working with the committee of adjustment (if needed), building permit review and process and finally the building and construction of the design. "[The] pre-construction phase can take, in some cases, over a year to complete, so be aware of that when you're planning,

says Jericevic. "Construction itself can take anywhere from 3 months to a year, depending on a lot of things."

Mr. Jericevic tells us that one of the ways that homeowners can impact the duration of their project is via their own preparedness.

"Decisions should be made ahead of time for certain things and delaying the decision will affect the deadlines and the length of your project at the end," says Jericevic.

Be prepared and do as much planning in advance as possible to create a smooth renovation process.

Once your plans have been created and approved, the building can begin. To ease some of your potential anxiety, Modular Home Additions gives their clients access to a web portal and phone number that can provide their clients with assistance in case of any questions that may arise or an emergency.

— Visit **Modular Home Additions** on **eieihome.com** to view galleries, read articles and learn more about how they can help improve your home.



Whether it's to enhance curb appeal or expand a home's initial structure, a modular approach to home building is a better organized and faster process to add to a home.



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Whether you are looking to achieve a full reno or a small facelift, countertops are crucial to creating a stylish impact in the kitchen.

Choose the right countertop


DVIRA OVADIA
LIVING BY DESIGN

Selecting the right type of countertop for your kitchen is one of the most important decisions you'll make in your design.

Kitchens have become the most used and enjoyed spaces in our homes, which means that its imperative to outfit them with surfaces that are durable and aesthetically pleasing.

Whether you are looking to achieve a full reno or a small facelift, kitchen countertops are crucial to creating a stylish impact in the space.

Today, countertop choices are endless: granite, marble, engineered stone, solid surfaces, and laminates. From frugal to fabulous, all options have pros and cons!

The appearance of your countertop is just as important as its performance and you want to ensure that your selection appeals to both sides of the spectrum.

If you are on a budget consider laminate options, some nice options on the market today mimic real stone patterns and straight edge profiles make these options look quite contemporary and sleek.

When it comes to natural stone, we can categorize them into three different types:

Granite is one of the only natural stones that is durable enough to withstand the hustle and bustle of any kitchen! On the downside, this product has been around for many years now and is no longer the most stylish product so select your colours wisely so will have long time appeal.

Natural quartz is one notch down from granite when comparing durability, however, on the upside this material tends to be a lot more beautiful and resemble closely some of the exotic marbles.

Marble is one of the most elegant stones on the market. It is a great product for bathroom countertops, although the sheer beauty of the slabs are tempting, this material is very porous, it absorbs water, wine, and acidic substances. Needless to say, this attractive surface stains easily and requires re-sealing and re-polishing yearly.

Aside from the three popular natural stones, engineered stones are more popular than ever. Products like quartz surfaces are now highly durable and come in large variety of colors and styles. These man made quartz stones are all the hype when it comes to kitchen design, this is revolutionary modern product that is extremely durable and beautiful.

It has become an industry favourite because these man made products are reproducing the look of some of the most exotic stones on the market, making this product not only aesthetically pleasing but much more affordable for kitchen renovations.

— **Dvira Ovadia** is principal of **Dvira Interiors** and a celebrity designer known for work on several HGTV programs. Visit www.dvira.com.