

Planning for Renovations: Seasonal Guide

Owning a home is an always-evolving project, and not having the proper resources can create quite a headache. Understanding when to tackle a certain project, and the factors that go into making those decisions, can make you a smarter (and craftier!) homeowner.

The folks at Robert Young & Son's know that the New Year is a time for planning and starting anew. Whether you have a small DIY project or a larger overhaul in mind, we want to help guide you through your options, starting with when to start your project. After all, timing is everything. Here are a few reasons to consider the seasons before tackling a big job around the house.

Winter: Scheduling and Remodeling

Winter is generally the "slow" season for contractors. Cold, nasty weather makes it more difficult to tackle outdoor projects. It also presents the perfect opportunity to bargain hunt. Talking with your contractor and planning supplies and necessities could end up saving you some extra cash if you buy everything you'll need during the winter lull.

Have a kitchen that needs remodeling? What about a new bathroom? Winter is the time. With contractors, schedules generally less full during the winter months, it's a perfect opportunity to have that dream kitchen or bathrooms ready to go well before the first summer party.

Summer: Plan in Advance for Winter and Stone-Related Projects

This is a great season to think outside the box. While your neighbors are putting in pools or building additions to their homes, why don't you consider checking the furnaces and heating system throughout the house before the cold months kick in?

There's nothing worse than having to deal with a frozen or burst pipe in the middle of January. Why not take advantage of a warm (and dry) day to insulate pipes around the house and prevent an early morning freeze during winter?

Summer is also the perfect time to take care of some of the outdoor stonework you want to tackle. With the land being drier, the warm months present a great opportunity to fix your chimney, or build a perimeter wall around your property.

Spring: Windows and Air Conditioning

With your bathroom and kitchen done, it's time to focus on some of the essentials to get your house ready for the warm up. Most people tend to replace or repair their windows during the summer, so consider repairing yours in April. You can almost guarantee contractors will be available, and you may get a better deal since demand is not as high in the spring as it typically is during summer.

Nobody is busier than air conditioning repair companies come July. Give them a call in May and have them come and service / replace your unit and change out your filters. You can keep your house cool by keeping your windows open and you don't have to worry about going a day or two without your AC working in the sweltering July heat while repairs are being done.

Fall: Look Ahead

Fall tends to be a contractor's busiest season. Keeping that in mind, why don't you consider putting in that new pool you've always wanted? Prices for pools, patios and fences will generally be cheaper during the fall months. And since fall is considered the best time to plant new trees, flowers and grass, damage done to your land during installation will look good as new come spring. Plus, this gives you 6 months to plan your first pool party!

"The New Year is a time for planning and starting anew"

The most important thing to take away from all of this: when it comes to household projects and construction, proper planning is everything. Often, knowing when to remodel is more about planning every detail than it is about which season you choose to do your work. The most successful remodeling project, regardless of the season, is one that has been carefully planned out.