

RENOVATE TODAY!



436 INSPIRING IDEAS FOR TRANSFORMING YOUR HOME NOW



Architects, Contractors, Builders, and Homeowners Share Their Advice

Reno ation

For this special issue, we collected and revisted years of great ideas and challenging projects, and contacted the architects, designers, and residents to ask for their hard-won lessons and words of advice. The answers were at once educational, astounding, and hilarious. Through their stories, we found that though renovation is not for the faint of heart—obstacles arise, budget woes surface, material needs shift—in the end, creativity and tenacity always trump calamity. We hope you'll enjoy reading and find inspiration for your projects great and small.

Amanda Dameron, Editor-in-Chief amanda@dwell.com Follow me on Twitter: @AmandaDameron.

"I told the owners: 'Don't just do a classical apartment. Don't destroy this beautiful, poetic space. Be brave. Be courageous. Minimalize everything.'" —Architect Piero Lissoni "Pink makes a bold statement in an entrance and is a great way to connect the upstairs and downstairs spaces, making each person who enters immediately feel warm, welcome, and stimulated." —Architect Linda Taalman

"Plant deciduous trees: In the summer, they're in full foliage and give the shade you need, in winter, they drop their leaves and you get the heat energy you need at that time."

"Our new kitchen was spurred by the simultaneous death of three key appliances: the range, the fridge, and the dishwasher." —Resident Deborah Bishop

"Even a small renovation can hold as many decisions as new construction, and two parameters decide a lot: the intended use of the space and its original spirit. If the two don't overlap into a sweet spot, consider another place." —Designer Kristopher Dukes

"Cost control is a process, and you need clear understanding of the budget between the owner, design team, and builder from the early stages of the design process. Benchmark similar-cost projects to educate the owner on what level of scope and quality their budget will afford."

—Architect Michael Grant

"Not every situation calls for more lights. Think about how you want the space to feel. Get clip lights and a selection of bulbs, so you can improvise, play, and test your preferences before choosing your final scheme."

—Lighting designer Linnaea Tillett

PHOTO BY STAN MUSILEK

A. Healthy CFL 15-Watt (60W) Bright White bulb by Purely Products

Life span: 10,000 hours purelyproducts.com

B. A19 12-Watt (60W) Daylight LED bulb by EcoSmart from \$21

Life span: 25,000 hours homedepot.com

C. AmbientLED 17-Watt (75W equivalent) Soft White bulb by Philips \$32

Life span: 25,000 hours homedepot.com

D. Energy Smart Bright from the Start CFL 60-Watt Replacement by GE \$10

Life span: 10,000 hours gelightingstore.alice.com

Lighting is one of the most vital factors in any interior. It affects our moods, helps us interpret the seasons, and, if we're not careful, sucks up electricity and causes worrying energy bills. With further restrictions on incandescents imminent. we take stock of your current bulb options.

E. G25 60-Watt replace-ment halogen bulb by Sylvania

Life span: 2,000 hours sylvania.com

F. Chrome tip G25 60-Watt globe by Bulbrite from \$8

Life span: 1,500 hours lumens.com

G. Performance LED Dimmable BR30 13-Watt (65W) bulb by Feit Electric from \$25

Life span: 30,000 hours amazon.com

H. Hi-Brites 7x1w Dimmable Warm White LED flood bulb by ecoBrites \$43

Life span: 50,000 hours ecobrites.com

"Hold on to the incandescents for special situations like accent lighting. Use 2700 dimmable LEDs for lamps with shades and 2700 color-corrected non-dim compact fluorescents for hallways. overhead, utility rooms, and offices. Get clip lights and a selection of bulbs, so you can test your preferences before you choose your final scheme."

-Lighting designer Linnaea Tillett tillettlighting.com