

The Consumer's Guide to

Basement Renovations





What Do I Create With My Basement's Space?

Renovating your basement is a popular and cost-effective way to maximize existing square-footage. It is your blank slate for creating a new, finished level on your home. Many people use their finished basements for:

- An additional living room, or family room
- Extra bedrooms for a family's
 - In-laws
 - Elderly
 - Guests
 - Kids moving back home
- Play rooms
- Personal gym
- Work office
- Game room
- Bathroom
- Spa

We work with *you* to create a space that completes your home.



Is My Basement Ready For a Change?

Before we start your remodeling process, we personally assess your basement to get the full picture. Some elements to consider before remodeling your basement are:

Style of your home

We help you to create a custom space that is consistent with the design of your house and complimenting to its overall style.

Ceiling height

Building codes do require a minimum of 7 ½ feet ceiling clearance for rooms, and 7 feet for halls and bathrooms. In many cases, an older home with a dirt-floor basement that does not meet this headroom requirement can be dug deeper. This is, however, a technical process that must be done by a licensed contractor.

Condition of your stairs

For safety and building codes, the state of your basement stairs will also be assessed for any necessary improvements.

If you have a homemade staircase with steps that are less than nine inches above each other (the “rise”), we will have to build you a new staircase in order to meet building code. Whether you have 3 steps or 30, they must all be the same size, and have an eight-inch rise.



In-home assessment

***Keep in mind** - However you choose to finish your basement, most will need a bathroom and heating.*

Once you have a quote from us and are ready to turn your basement into a finished, living space, we will come measure the area and check for any water, heat, or electrical issues.

Water

We can fix some water complications with water-resistant coating, eliminating and preventing moisture. Often, there is no water supply or drainage dedicated to the basement. We can install sump pumps and do any required plumbing/drain work before moving forward.

Heating

We will check if the existing heat output in your basement is sufficient, and outfit you with the necessary heating/furnace system.

In many cases, a basement isn't connected to a house's central heating, and they certainly aren't insulated. We will create a temperature-controlled environment for your new living space that is both comfortable and energy efficient.

Electrical

To make sure your electrical panel can handle the load of new installations, we will evaluate your existing system in case an upgrade may be needed. Our electricians will also be able to configure a number of lighting, outlet, and switch arrangements throughout.



Our Modular System

Walls

With our modular system, your basement will be impervious to water and fire. Our walls are made with magnesium composite that is resistant to allergens, mold, moisture and odor.

Ceiling

We offer a Drop Ceiling, or a traditional, Sheetrock Ceiling.

- The drop ceiling is a secondary ceiling that is suspended below your ground floor to cover pipes, cables and HVAC air return – a staple of modern architecture.
- The sheetrock or drywall ceiling option will be nearly flush with the top of your basement, allowing for greater headroom.

A Bit About Our Sheetrock...

- Our ½ inch thick, moisture resistant, paperless sheet rock prevents mold growth
- Solid-panel construction for conventional drywall look and use
- Invisible seam connection, removable, and are a fast and clean installation
- Professional material, family affordable

What kind of flooring options do I have?

We proactively do a moisture test to avoid costly damages before installing your flooring. Once the area is up to standards, you can install any choice of flooring style: tile, laminate, wood, or carpet.

Personal Architect and Draftsman

Your architect and draftsman will draft professional schematics of your basement and proposed renovations. They can also take care of the permits, while a project manager dedicated to your renovation oversees everything, reporting to you.

A Project Manager Dedicated to Your Job

When you have Total Remodeling finish your living space, you'll have the convenience and efficiency of one company to handle all the details for you. Throughout the process, you will have a liaison for the job that listens to your comments and ideas, each step along the way. Your project manager handles all services, including inspections, and is dedicated specifically to your renovation.

Putting the Clipboard In Your Hands

You will be provided with a clipboard for any days when your project manager is not on site, to keep you informed of what is on the docket for the day. This includes a feedback form for your own thoughts or comments on the work being done. We strive for day-to-day customer feedback – working out any issues before they become an issue.

We're All Set to Build, Where Do We Start?

Once the floor plan is approved and all building permits are in place, your new living space can be ready for your enjoyment in 6 to 8 weeks. We start with the foundation, and then install the walls. Next, we add all electrical outlets and lighting fixtures, finish the walls, flooring, and paint. Now it's your turn – decorate, add furniture, and start enjoying your new living space.

Working with you to establish a budget

We make various financing options available to our clients, the majority of whom are growing families. Working with you to create a budget, we strive to bring new life to existing homes in a sensible manner that works for you.

