

Should You Renovate or Move?

If you need to upsize or you're simply ready for a change, it's tempting to consider a major renovation. After all, renovating means you don't have to go through the process of selling your property and buying another more suitable home. You just fix up the one you've got!

However, you need to carefully consider the pros and cons of renovating before going this route. You don't want to invest in a costly renovation only to end up with a home that still doesn't meet your needs.

Say, for example, your current property doesn't have a home office. Since all the bedrooms are taken, you decide to renovate a portion of the basement. Building that new home office may seem like a simple project, but once you consider new electrical, flooring, lighting, etc., it really isn't. Like most renovations, it will probably cost more than you think. Plus, you'll need to consider whether you'll really want to work in the basement.

In this case, it might make more sense to find a new home with an extra bedroom that can be converted, or, better still, a dedicated home office space — with windows!

Of course, there are many circumstances in which a renovation may be the best way to go. If you don't like your kitchen, for example, upgrading it



may not only get you the kitchen you want, but also add value to your property.

Basically, you need to ask yourself: "Which is more likely to get me the home I really want — a renovation or a new home?"

If your answer is a new home, then there is probably a property on the market right now that would meet your needs. Let's talk.

5 Ways to Create Extra Space in Your Home

Is your home feeling a little cramped? If so, there are many relatively inexpensive ways to free up more space. Here are some ideas:

Convert traditional into non-traditional space. We're all familiar with converting a spare bedroom into a home office or kids' playroom. You can also create space by finding other uses for pantries and walk-in closets.

Explore smart storage solutions. There are many products on the market

that revolutionize how you store things. For example, there are closet organizers available that double storage capacity. Check out the options at your local home improvement store.

Get rid of unneeded furnishings. Is there a chair no one ever uses? Is there a side table that takes up a lot of space, with nothing but a few knick-knacks on it? Consider selling these items to free up some space.

Think high. Install storage shelves,

hangers or baskets high up in the kitchen and laundry room. Use that storage for items you only access infrequently.

Consider storage rental. If you have furnishings and other items that you don't want to get rid of, consider renting a storage unit. There may be economical options in your area.

With a little creative thinking, you'll be amazed by how much space you can create within your existing rooms.

Think, Act... Live!

"You got to be careful if you don't know where you're going, because you might not get there." **Yogi Berra**

"Nothing is particularly hard if you divide it into small jobs." **Henry Ford**

"Throw your heart over the fence and the rest will follow." **Norman Vincent Peale**