

# Homeowner's Guide to Bathroom Remodeling in Snohomish & King County

A homeowner checklist for Bathroom Remodeling

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## Phase 1: Planning & Budgeting

- Define your project scope: is this a simple refresh or a full remodel?
- Set a realistic budget, including a 15-20% contingency fund.
- Take detailed measurements of the entire bathroom.
- Choose your new fixtures: vanity, toilet, faucet, and lighting.
- Select your materials: tile, flooring, and paint.
- Order any items with long lead times, like vanities or special-order tile.
- Determine if your project will require a permit.
- Photograph the 'before' state for your records.

## Phase 2: Demolition & Preparation

- Turn off the main water supply to the bathroom.
- Turn off electrical power to the bathroom at the breaker panel.
- Remove all personal items, linens, and decor.
- Protect flooring and adjacent rooms with drop cloths and plastic sheeting.
- Carefully remove the toilet and vanity.
- Remove old flooring or tile if it's being replaced.
- Examine the subfloor and walls for any signs of water damage or mold.

## Phase 3: Installation (DIY-Friendly Tasks)

- Make any necessary drywall repairs and sand smooth.
- Paint the ceiling and walls with a moisture-resistant paint.
- Install your new flooring according to manufacturer's instructions.
- Set the new toilet using a new wax ring.
- Install the new vanity and secure it to the wall.
- Install the sink and faucet onto the vanity top.
- Connect the sink drain (P-trap) and water supply lines.
- Install new light fixtures and hardware.

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#### Phase 4: Final Checks & Cleanup

- Apply a bead of 100% silicone caulk where the vanity meets the wall.
- Apply caulk around the base of the toilet.
- Slowly turn the water back on and meticulously check all connections for leaks.
- Turn the power back on and test all lights and the exhaust fan.
- Clean all surfaces and remove all tools and debris.
- Wait 24 hours for caulk to cure before using the sink or shower.
- Re-check for any slow drips or leaks after a day of use.

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