



BEFORE-YOU-BUILD

11-STEP CHECKLIST



Few things are more gratifying than building the house of your dreams. Before you get started on construction, check out our 11-step building-a-house checklist.

FIGURE OUT YOUR BUDGET

The first step on our house checklist is to settle on a final budget. Be sure to factor in costs such as permitting, engineering, design, and contractor costs. You should also budget costs for city construction fees and local taxes.

DECIDE ON SIZE

One of your first steps should be to look into neighborhood ordinances and zoning restrictions to see if there are size limits for new construction in your area. From there, put a plan in place for the number of stories, rooms, and total square footage.

CONSIDER YOUR LIFESTYLE

Since you're building the house from the ground up, feel free to design it around your lifestyle. If you're an artist, why not devote an entire room to extra studio space? Do you love woodworking? You might as well build yourself a shop.

PLAN THE LAYOUT

Planning your new home's layout is one of the most open-ended yet exciting parts of building a house. You essentially have no limits to what to do with your floor plans, and the layout can determine things like how guests interact within the space, privacy, flow of foot traffic, and more.

THINK ABOUT YOUR STYLE PREFERENCES

Your style preferences can and should influence the type of home you build. Would you like to incorporate an island in your kitchen, or maybe prioritize counter space? Are walk-in closets a priority for you? Whatever it is, lean into your particular aesthetic.

SEEK FINANCING

Most people will need some form of external financing before building a new home. Be sure to compare several options, from lines of credit to personal bank loans or even using your credit card for some expenses.

DECIDE ON A DEADLINE

You don't want to rush the construction of your new house, but it's important to stick to a reasonable deadline. This can keep construction and labor costs lower and will be especially important in colder climates when winter approaches.

SECURE YOUR LOCATION

Before you can build your dream home, you need a dream location. You should consider things like orientation, topography, home values in the surrounding area, and the cost of land. You should also budget some time and money into securing permits.

DESIGN YOUR NEW HOME

When you're designing the blueprint, start by dreaming big before eventually scaling back. Work with an architect to make sure that your ideas are possible and work down your list of features and needs in order of their importance to you.

CHECK DESIGN COSTS

Another important reason why you should work with an architect during the design process: They'll be able to help keep your design costs low.

HIRE A GENERAL CONTRACTOR

Do you need help with the construction process on your new home? Now that you've gone through the building a house checklist, we can help! **Call us at Schar Construction at 541-204-8406 in Eugene, OR, and get started today.**