

Planning & Preparation

Project Planning

Define Scope: Clearly outline the project's goals and boundaries.
Budgeting: Create a realistic budget, including materials, tools, and potential unexpected costs.
Timeline: Establish a timeline with milestones to track progress.
Permits: Check local building codes and obtain necessary permits before starting any major work.
Safety: Prioritize safety by identifying potential hazards and planning accordingly.
Design: Before any physical work, ensure that the concept is well-defined and that all stakeholders are aligned.

Essential Tools

Measuring Tools:	Tape measure, level, square, stud finder
Cutting Tools:	Utility knife, saw (hand saw, circular saw, jigsaw)
Fastening Tools:	Screwdrivers (Phillips, flathead), drill/driver, hammer
Safety Gear:	Safety glasses, gloves, dust mask, hearing protection
Other Essentials:	Pliers, adjustable wrench, sandpaper, paintbrushes, drop cloths

Material Estimating

Lumber: Calculate board feet based on project dimensions.
Paint: Estimate coverage based on square footage and number of coats.
Tiles: Determine the number of tiles needed, accounting for waste.
Drywall: Measure wall area to determine the number of drywall sheets required.
Flooring: Calculate square footage and add extra for cuts and errors.

Basic Skills & Techniques

Drywall Repair

Small Holes: Apply spackle or joint compound, sand smooth, and paint.
Large Holes: Cut a patch, secure it with drywall screws, apply joint compound, sand, and paint.
Taping: Use drywall tape to cover seams between drywall sheets, then apply joint compound in multiple coats.

Painting Techniques

Surface Prep:	Clean, sand, and prime surfaces before painting.
Cutting In:	Use a brush to paint edges and corners before rolling.
Rolling:	Apply paint in a W pattern, then roll to smooth.
Multiple Coats:	Apply at least two coats for even coverage.

Basic Plumbing

Shut-off Valves: Know the location of main and fixture shut-off valves.
Leaking Pipes: Tighten connections or replace damaged sections.
Clogged Drains: Use a plunger or drain snake to clear clogs.

Electrical Basics

Safety First

Always turn off the power at the breaker before working on any electrical components.
Use insulated tools to prevent shocks.
Test for live current with a non-contact voltage tester before touching any wires.

Wiring Basics

Black Wire:	Hot wire (carries current).
White Wire:	Neutral wire (returns current).
Green or Bare Wire:	Ground wire (safety).
Wire Connectors:	Use wire nuts to securely connect wires.

Outlet & Switch Replacement

Disconnect Power: Turn off the breaker.
Remove Old Device: Unscrew and carefully pull out the old outlet or switch.
Connect Wires: Attach wires to the new device, matching colors.
Secure New Device: Screw the new device into the box and replace the cover plate.

Finishing Touches

Caulking

Purpose: Seal gaps and joints to prevent air and water infiltration.
Types: Acrylic, silicone, polyurethane.
Application: Clean surface, apply caulk, smooth with a wet finger or tool.

Grouting

Purpose:	Fill gaps between tiles.
Types:	Sanded (for wide joints), unsanded (for narrow joints).
Application:	Apply grout, remove excess, clean with a sponge.
Sealing:	Seal grout to prevent staining and water damage.

Hardware Installation

Door Knobs: Follow manufacturer's instructions for installation.
Cabinet Hardware: Use a template for consistent placement.
Towel Bars & Shelves: Ensure proper anchoring to wall studs or use drywall anchors.