

Remodeling: Home As Art

Buying remodeling isn't like buying a car or dining room set. You can't simply compare prices and choose the one that requires the lowest investment. Because of the many type of home styles and the range of professionalism within remodeling companies, there is no way to compare apples to apples. Apples to llamas is more like it. In fact, remodeling is probably as far from commodity buying as you can get.

But if we wanted to compare, I'd say that buying remodeling is most similar to buying artwork or graphic design work. Your home is the canvas with a painting already begun. We're the artist who will put our skills to work to finish the beautiful project.

Just like the artists and graphic designers, each professional remodeler will have a different creative mindset. This means that if you were to talk to several remodelers, each will probably design a completely different solution to your problem.

And just like artists, each remodeler will have his or her own taste and skill levels. It's really up to you, the homeowner, to find a remodeler that shares your vision for the final result. So look at your search for just the right remodeler as the search for an artist for your home. Here are some steps to follow:

- Begin by looking at the company portfolio. Ask how they created the solution to the particular remodeling project.
- Don't rely on photography alone. Professional photography can make almost any project look wonderful. Take the time to visit a project or two and to see the details up close. Oftentimes, the details are where the creative juices really shine.
- Talk to us about your budget and your vision for your project. Let us recommend the medium to use. Sculptures may be created out of clay, bronze, or gold but do you really want to pay the price for gold? The artist may recommend the bronze which will give you the impact you want at a smaller investment.
- Let us be creative. After all, we spend our working lives designing projects that will help you make the most of the possibilities. Don't dictate the direction of the project. Suggest what you had in mind but let us demonstrate our skills.
- Remember, just like the more skilled and popular artists can command higher prices, so might you be asked to invest a bit more for the remodeler who can deliver the best product.
- Become an educated consumer. People who invest in art, don't spend their money until they've learned something about the topic. Then they feel comfortable spending their dollars on the best they can afford B even if it's only a pencil sketch.
- Changing your home through remodeling can be one of the most rewarding decisions you'll even make. Make the right choice and you'll look at a masterpiece every time you open your door.