Don't F*ck up your Reno guide.





A renovation guide by Interior Designer Lisa Post.







Welcome.

It is my personal belief that our homes are more than just physical structures; they are the backdrop to our lives, the sanctuary where we retreat, and the canvas upon which we paint our stories.

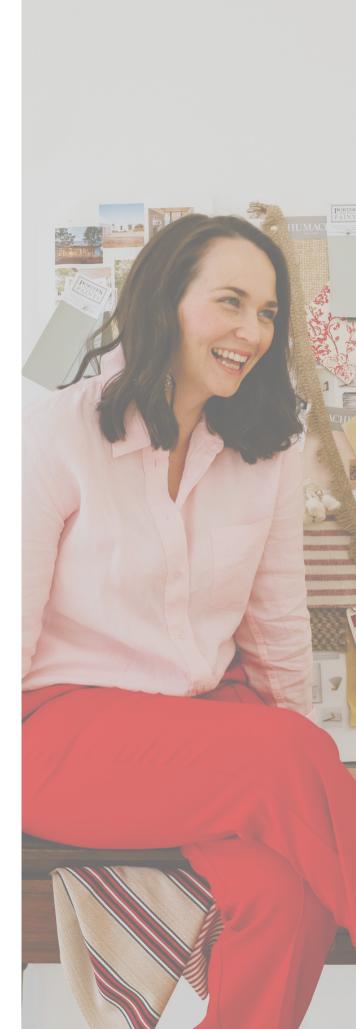
When we infuse our homes with personal touches and meaningful elements, we breathe life into the space and create a haven that resonates with our souls. Creating a home that is deeply connected to our individual needs and memories is an exquisite endeavor that holds immense significance for me.

I am so excited to guide you on your renovation. Within this document you will find my tips and tricks to keeping your reno moving, staying inspired and questions with space to journal your answers, so you can stay on your truest path when designing your home.

Please send me your reno updates and questions via Substack and I will try and answer them when I can, either through our paid private community chat or via my paid community Q&A sessions.

With love,



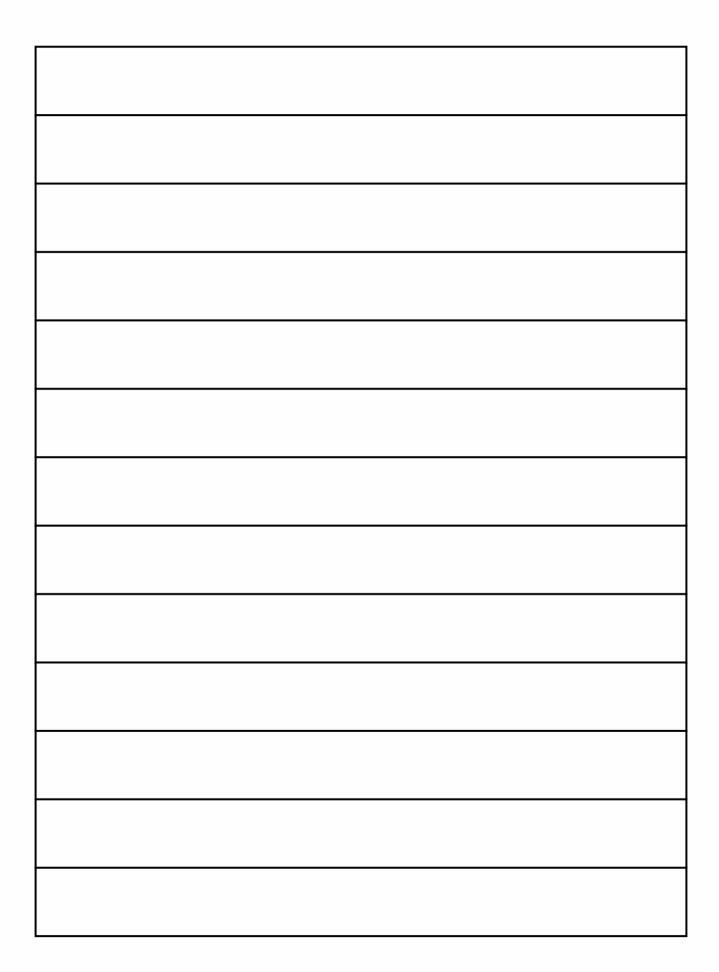




Step 1 - set clear goals.

Before you start your renovation project, define your goals. Determine which areas of your home need the most attention and create a list of priorities. Focus on what will make the most significant impact on your family's comfort and lifestyle. When we started our reno, we were living in a caravan so our priority was a new working bathroom! However, to start the bathroom, firstly we had to fix the roof.

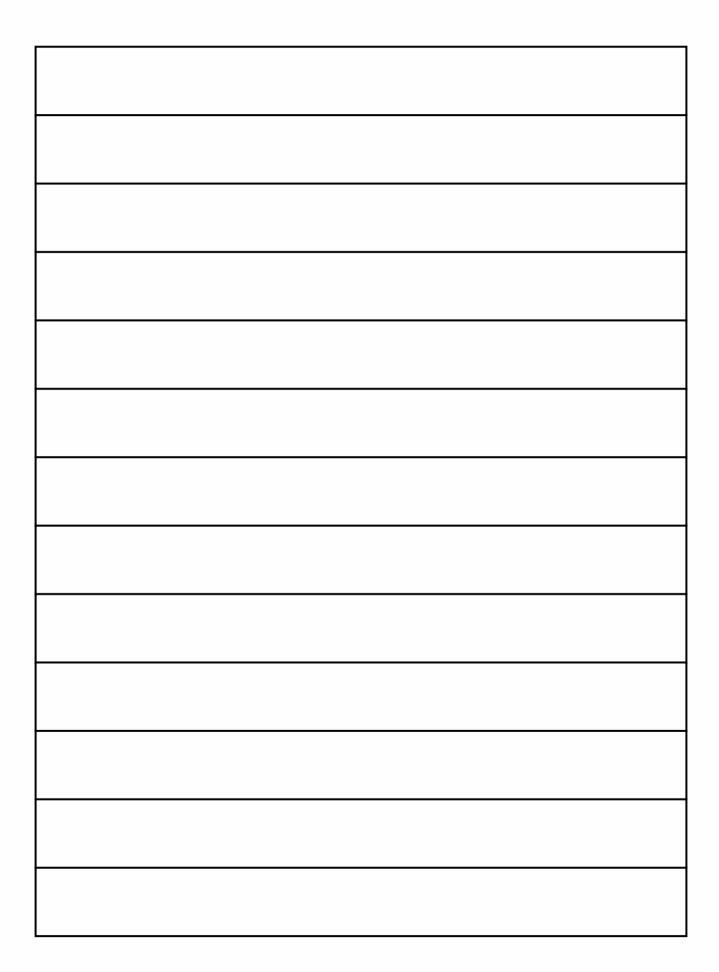
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Step 2 - create a budget.

I know this is the bit people hate, but it is imperative to work out how much you have to spend (or are willing to invest). If you are renovating an older home, you really do need to have a budget as quite often what starts as something very simple and cheap, like replacing a lino floor, often turns into structural repairs! Identify your total budget, allocate funds for each aspect of your project. Be prepared for unexpected expenses and set aside a contingency fund to cover them.

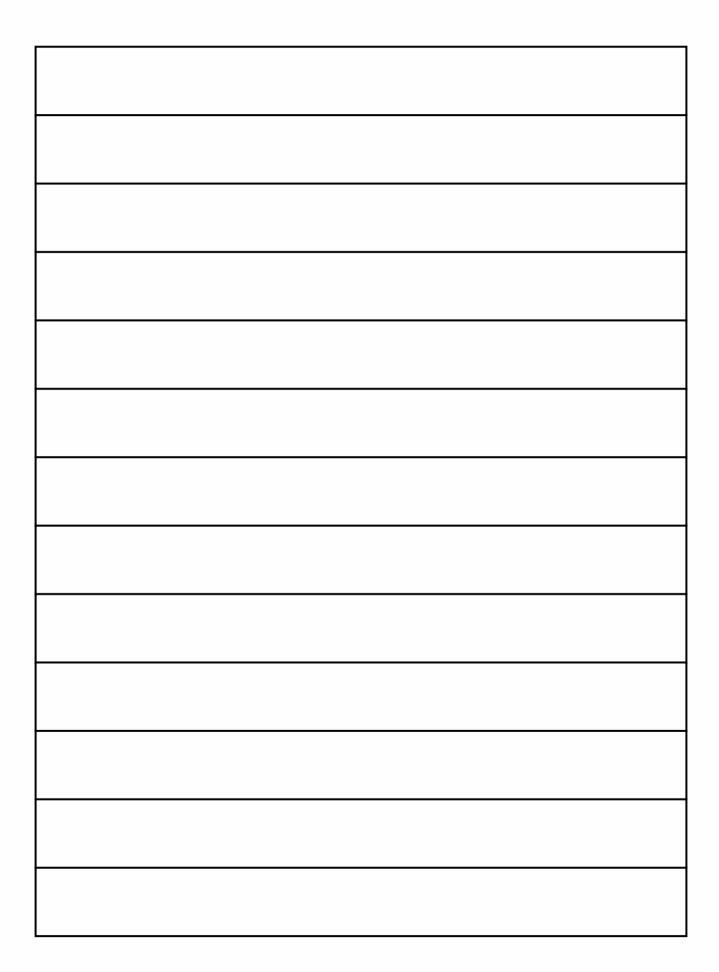
- What room are you starting with?
- What work does it need?
- What could go wrong? Does it have lead paint? Has it been leaking under the floor covering?
- Get three quotes for the work or if you are doing it yourself, price up the materials you will need. Make sure you add at least a 15% contingency to these costs.



Step 3 - DIY & Professional help.

Consider your DIY skills and the complexity of the renovations. While some tasks can be handled by yourself, others may require professional help. By doing certain tasks yourself, you can save money and allocate your budget more effectively. Things like roofing, plumbing and electrical work should always be carried out by a licensed professional.

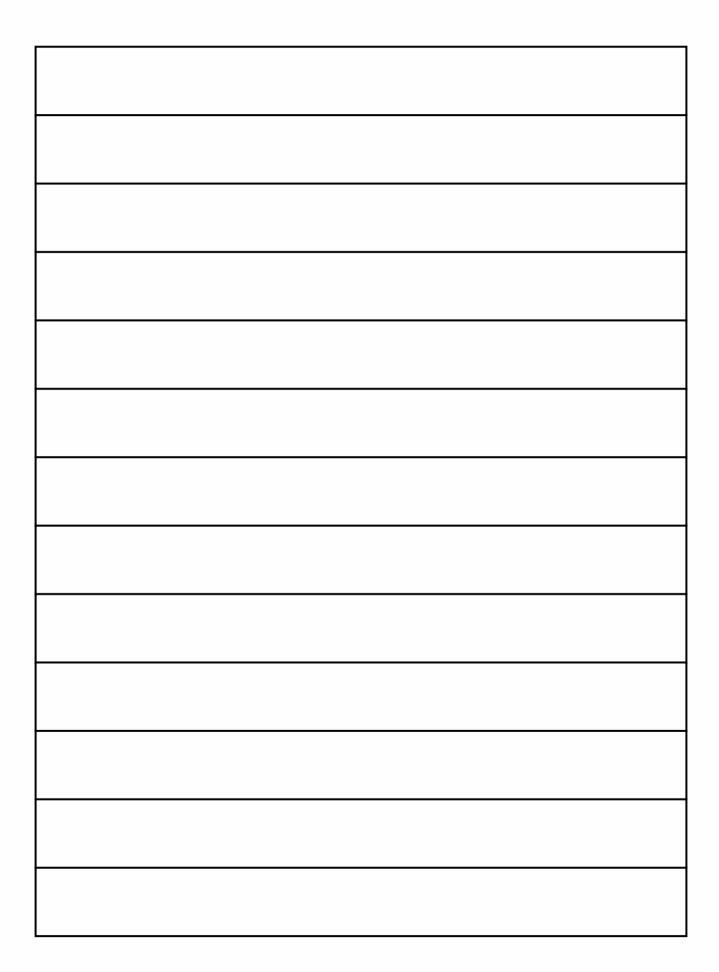
- What DIY jobs can you completed yourself?
- What do you need to get help with?
- Look into entry level design help, for example a colour consultation is quite inexpensive and can save you lots of time & stress!



Step 4 - Plan, Plan, Plan, Plan, Plan.

A well-thought-out plan can save you time and money. Create detailed plans and sketches, make a timeline for your project. This will help you stay organised and on track. Create an inspiration board for the overall look and feel of your home, and create one for each room you are intending to renovate. Make sure you use the same design language throughout your home, for example if you use brass lighting fixtures for your wall lights in the lounge room, don't choose a different metal for the other rooms - keep the language consistent.

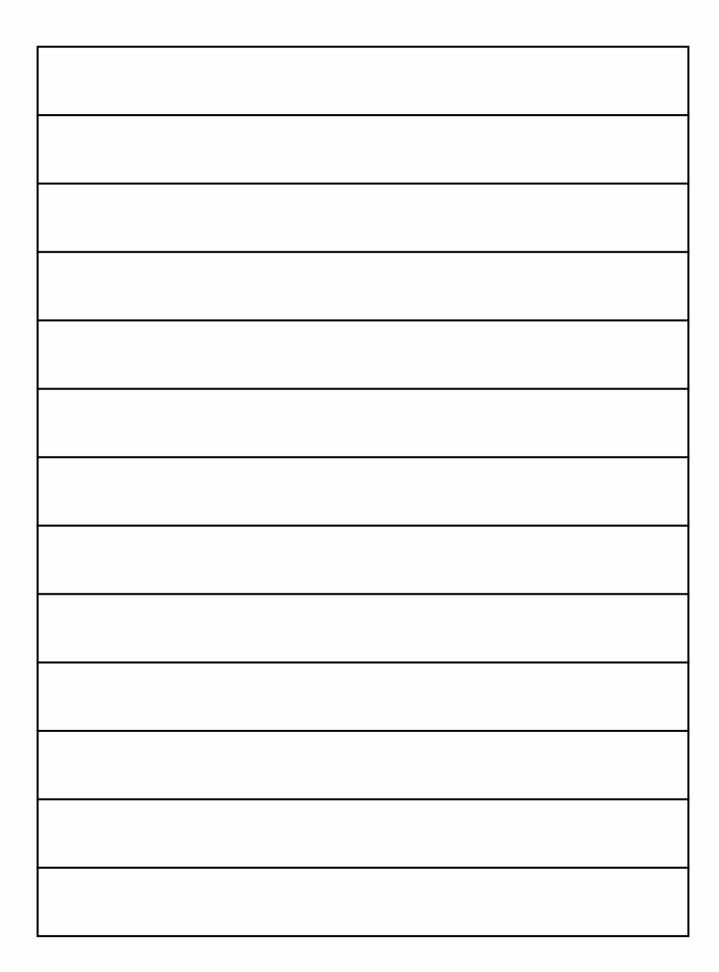
- Choose a room to start with and sketch out a rough existing floor plan, marking out doorways, windows and any fixed features for example fire places.
- Make a list of all the things that need reworking in this space.
- Create an inspiration in Pinterest, Canva or PowerPoint. Try to use just 4-5 images and a few words to describe how you want your home or room to look/feel. I often start with the feeling as this informs the aesthetic for me.
- Use tracing paper (or baking paper) to overlay your floor plan and make a few drafts of the changes you'd like to make. Perhaps it is just furniture that needs to be relocated, or maybe the room would benefit from a different flow by removing or relocating a door or window.
- Now add in your furniture plan so you can start mapping out where you need a lamp or socket to go. Your lighting plan can be made with quite simple dots (just make sure you have a key down the side for your electrician).
- Get at least 3 quotes for the work you can't do yourself. Yes, I think I have already said this, but do not let any trade on-site without an idea of the cost before they start! I repeat 3 quotes. You can thank me later.



Step 5 - Reuse & Repurpose.

Consider repurposing or refinishing existing furniture, cabinets, or fixtures. Sometimes, a fresh coat of paint or new hardware can give items a whole new look. Trawling reclamation yards or auction houses, or op shops is a great way to save money and add a personal flair to your home. Alternatively, consider how cheaper items might be jazzed up a little. For example, plain doors are very cheap, but add a lovely door handle and some moulding and they look fabulous!

- What items do you need in the room your are renovating?
- Can anything be refinished?
- Invest in beautiful hardware and tapware. Use plain cabinets and doors but splash out on the things you touch daily - trust me it will add a sense of luxury every time you use them. It's a bit like wearing lovely knickers under your trackies.



Step 6 - Colour Palette.

Creating a color palette is a fundamental step in any design project. This is the most exciting part of a project for me. If you've seen my design work, you'll notice that it oscillates between saturated colour and neutral colour transitions. I like to have breathing space between my blocks of colour, I like to give the eye rest and then create a dramatic impact upon entering a room.

You might prefer an overall neutral palette, or you might love colour everywhere. Whichever way your swing when it comes to colour, it is really, really, important to have your colour palette figured out near the start of your renovation as your colour choices will have an impact on your material choices.

If you are leaning towards grey, I implore you to reconsider. Grey is a colour dominant and it makes it very hard to add other colours to the scheme. It is often the choice of developers as it's easy to sell. I don't think we can be friends if you are a grey lover - sorry. It's such a cold colour, instead try using browns or caramels, olive greens or rust.

When I start creating a colour palette for a project I will often start with an art work, fabric or colour memory.

- Do you have an artwork you absolutely love? What colours are in it?
- Is there a fabric you adore? Perhaps there is one in your inspiration board? I find a fabric with multiple colours in it works well for this exercise.
- Do you have a colour memory? For me, yellow floods me with memories of my childhood, bike rides with my grandfather, through the countryside in spring, daffodil's littering the sides of the road. Trips to France and Claude Monets bright yellow dining room. Write down your favourite memory, what colour comes through? How does it make you feel? How could you use this in your home?

