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## **Bathroom Renovation Costs Cheat Sheet**



Renovations are on the rise in Australia, and they show no sign of slowing down. With bathroom renovation costs creeping up we need to find ways to keep the cost down.

## **Here are our top five sure-fire ways**

### **1. Planning**

Planning is critical if you're going to stay on budget and the number one rule of great bathroom designs.

Costs can blow out quickly when you don't adequately plan your bathroom renovation. When planning your design, the first tip to keeping costs down is to -

- Make sure your bathroom designs are functional.
- **The materials you've selected are available. Making changes last minute will cost you more and could include possibly time delays.**
- Written quotes from all.
- Recycle / Reuse any fittings or fixtures.
- Consider spraying over existing tiles if they are in good condition.
- Tile patterns can make a statement.

### **2. Keep your bathrooms existing plumbing**

Keep existing plumbing in the same position. Spending quickly stacks up if you're considering moving plumbing.

The only reason you might consider moving plumbing is for a better bathroom layout, one that would function better for your needs. Then the costs out way this decision.

### **3. Know when to do the work yourself or get a professional**

#### **Do it yourself -**

- Stripping out of bathroom - You will need an electrician to disconnect all power and a plumber to disconnect all water before you start.

- Choosing a colour scheme and tile selection for your bathroom ideas - research through [Pinterest](#) and [interior design magazines](#)
- Painting - If your painting skills are good then consider if not don't! Bad painting looks terrible. :-)
- Fitting hooks and rails.

*Pro Tip - When you are drilling into the tile place masking tape over the space you are about to drill into, mark the position with a pencil and then drill in slowly. The tape will protect the tile and stop the drill piece from slipping around. If you are not up to doing this don't do it - if you drill in the wrong place or smash a tile the effort and cost to replace is too much!*

### Get the professional -

- **Electrical and plumbing you need a professional!**
- **Tiling – if you can't do perfect, spend the money and get a professional.**
- **Waterproofing - this needs to be done right you don't want water coming through to other rooms.**
- **Mistakes can be expensive for bathroom renovations costs!**

## 4. Go for White and stick to the basics

The most popular colour for bathrooms is white use it for everything you can't go wrong.

- It's clean and bright
- Manufacturers make fitting and fixtures in white so you will have the largest selection of choice in white.
- If you're selling it will appeal to everyone.
- To change up the look of your bathroom you can add accessories like towels soap holders and they will always go with white.



**#WHITEONWHITE**

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## 5. Shop around and look for discount bathroom stores online

You can save a fortune by shopping around and sourcing everything at the lowest possible price, including tiles, taps, shaving cabinets and even a great bath.

- **Colours are not always true online so take care with selection.**
- **Quality is hard to judge when you can't feel or touch before purchase.**
- **Make sure you understand delivery and returns policies for all items bought sight unseen. The internet is good for low cost bargains, but nothing is a bargain if it doesn't work or fit.**

**So start with a plan, have everything you need in place, secure quotes for all tasks required and don't pay for work you are not happy with.**

**Stay on top of your bathroom renovation costs and your beautiful bathroom awaits!**

**Extra Pro Tip 1** – *Not sure what to do in your bathroom then go for subway tiles. They are very cost effective and look fantastic if you add a contrast colour for the grout.*

*Grey Subway Tiles with White Grout Via Shades Tiles UK & White Subway Tiles with Black Grout via Barcelona Atlanta Tapas Wine Bar.*



**Extra Pro Tip 2** – You don't have to tile every wall! You could just add a skirting tile around to the wet areas. This will reduce the cost dramatically.

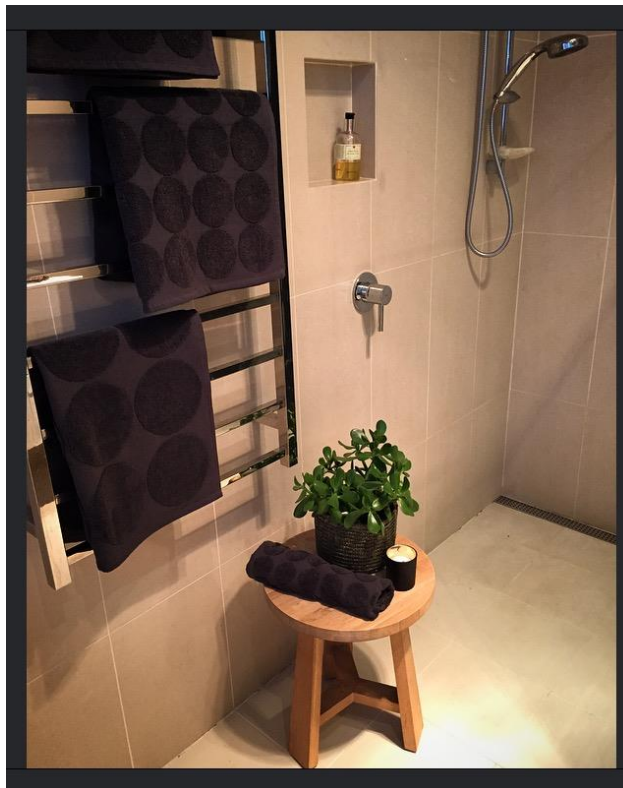
**Extra Pro Tip 3** – Add headed towel rails to bathrooms that do get much sunlight or have ventilation issues. Your towels will then dry and the expense will be worth it. Also be very generous with the towel rail size – trying to jam too many towels on one rail just does not work!

**Don't Make My Mistake!** – I have a shower that has one open side, it looks fantastic and makes the bathroom seem very large and luxurious.

You simply walk in with no door. It's great to look at BUT is terrible to live with. The water goes everywhere and drives me mad.

I have young teen children I am sure they try but the foot mat and bathroom floor is always wet so for practical reasons have all side of the shower closed in. It will be better in the long run.

N.B. There is an easy fix for this I could add another glass panel and a door but it would change the look of the room....I am not sure what I will do at this time. LC



This is a photo of my bathroom, it's a proof taken for an article that is being completed. On the right hand side is a long panel of glass and you can clearly see there is NO door. Looks good but it's not so practical to live with!

Liane Cooper – The Design Library©