

5 AI prompts to plan Renovation

5 AI Prompts to plan your RENOVATION like a pro Before you meet a contractor.

Prompt #1

Turn my Renovation ideas into a one-page plan

Act as my Renovation Prep Coach. I live in _____ [your city/neighbourhood] in a _____ [home age/style, e.g., 1970s detached]. I'm planning a _____ [project: kitchen/bath/basement/full-home].

Create a ONE-PAGE plan I can email a contractor:

- Goals (plain English, 3–5 bullets)
- Must-haves vs Nice-to-haves (5 each)
- Deal-breakers (3)
- What photos + measurements to collect (checklist I can follow today)
- Top 10 questions to ask in Meeting #1 (prioritized)
- 3 things homeowners often forget for this project

Use simple language, Canadian English, metric, and CAD. Assume Durham/Toronto context. If something needs local confirmation (permits/codes), tell me to “verify locally.”

Prompt #2

Make my budget fit reality (no overspending)

I can NOT spend more than _____ [\$XX CAD] for a _____ [project] in _____ [your city]. Help me plan within that limit.

Generate:

- Spend here (long-term value) vs Save here (safe compromises) — 5 items each, with short reasons
- Must-not-cut list (safety/durability basics)
- Top 5 budget blow-up triggers for this project and how to avoid them
- If I'm over budget: what to phase to later (and in what order)
- "Allowances" explained in simple words + example ranges so I can compare quotes fairly

Keep it short, clear, and practical. Canadian English, metric, CAD, Durham/Toronto context. Flag anything to verify locally.

Prompt #3

Build me a realistic timeline (with my dates)

Plan a realistic timeline for a _____ [project] in _____ [your city].

I prefer to START around _____ [target start month] and I'd like to FINISH by _____ [target finish date]. Work backwards and forwards to show:

- Phases and durations (design/selections, permits, ordering, build, inspections, punch list)
- Decision deadlines for long-lead items (e.g., cabinetry, windows, shower glass)
- What could slow each phase (top 2) + simple ways to reduce those risks
- A short homeowner to-do list by week (what I need to do to stay on track)

Use simple language, Canadian English, metric, CAD. Assume Ontario processes but tell me what to verify locally.

Prompt #4

Permit & risk pre-check (avoid surprises)

For a _____ [project] in _____ [your city], give me a simple "permit + risk pre-check" I can review before Meeting a Contractor.

Generate:

- Common reasons this project might need permits/inspections (plain-English)
- Site risks to look for in older homes [add your house age if known] (e.g., wiring, moisture, structure)
- Access/logistics issues to think about (bins, parking, stair width, ceiling height)
- A short "do-not-cut" quality list (e.g., waterproofing, ventilation, proper slope, GFCI/AFCI)

Write like you're helping a first-time homeowner. Canadian English, metric, CAD, Durham/Toronto context. Tell me to verify rules locally.

Prompt #5

Questions + quote compare (apples-to-apples)

Help me prepare for a contractor meeting and compare three quotes for a [project] in [your city].

Generate:

A) 10 protective questions to ask a contractor (no fluff), and what a good answer vs a red flag sounds like.

B) A one-page quote checklist so I can compare fairly:

- Inclusions I should see (demo, disposal/bin, site protection, waterproofing, tile-setting materials, electrical, plumbing, HVAC, drywall/paint, fixtures, cabinetry, hardware, permits/inspections, cleanup)
- Allowances (explain in simple terms + example ranges)
- Exclusions / "by owner" traps
- Change-order process & rate, payment schedule, warranty, WSIB/insurance proof
- 7 red flags that mean "ask questions now"

Keep it plain-English, Canadian context (metric + CAD). Flag anything I must verify locally.