



# Good on Paper

There's so much to consider when doing construction or renovating your home, from picking the right contractor and the best materials to managing costs and making design decisions. But don't forget one very important detail: building permits.

Whether you need to obtain one depends on your locality and the type of work you'd like to do to your home, but in many cases, you risk fines, penalties or additional construction costs if you don't get one. Selling your house might also be more difficult if a building official determines you remodeled without a permit and demands you bring it up to code.

How do you know if you need a permit for your project? Before beginning a project, ask yourself these questions:

- Will my remodeling change the footprint of the house?
- Will I have to move a load-bearing wall?
- Will the roofline be altered?
- Will any new doors or windows be constructed?

If you answer yes to any of these, a building permit will likely be required. Other aesthetic projects, such as installing new floor coverings, replacing sink hardware, changing a countertop or replacing windows, but not altering the structure, don't generally require one. If you're uncertain or need more information, call your local permit office; someone there will help you assess your project and determine if you'll need a permit.

Source: Wall Street Journal



## Say Yes to



Buying or selling a home can seem like an overwhelming task. But the right REALTOR® can make the process easier — and more profitable.

A Certified Residential Specialist (CRS), with years of experience and success, will help you make smart decisions in a fast-paced, complex and competitive market.

To receive the CRS Designation, REALTORS® must demonstrate outstanding professional achievements — including high-volume sales — and pursue advanced training in areas such as finance, marketing and technology. They must also maintain membership in the NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF REALTORS® and abide by its Code of Ethics.

Work with a REALTOR® who belongs among the top 4 percent in the nation. Contact a CRS today.



## DID YOU KNOW?

The top five biggest renovating mistakes are: avoiding permits, setting an unrealistic budget, hiring the wrong contractor, taking on more than you can handle and overbuilding for your neighborhood.

Source: HGTV



**Do you know someone who is thinking about buying or selling a home? Please mention my name.**

This newsletter is for informational purposes only and should not be substituted for legal or financial advice.

If you are currently working with another real estate agent or broker, it is not a solicitation for business.