

DESIGN CHECKLIST

GET ORGANIZED

- Make your appointment as soon as you can. Construction and finishing can progress very quickly, so you'll need to plan ahead to meet your design deadlines.
- Allow enough time for your appointment. Your design consultant will schedule a generous block of time - up to three hours - to thoroughly understand your style and explore your ideas.
- Write down any questions you want to ask at your appointment - like what is the standard height of the kitchen countertop or what are my flooring upgrade options?

GET INSPIRED

- Start a design "idea-book" to hold important ideas, notes, and pictures. A notebook will work nicely, or you might create an online version with Houzz or Pinterest. It is helpful to create two "idea-books". One with pictures of rooms you like and the other you dislike. This will give your Design Consultant a clear understanding of your design style.
- Do you have a favorite look or style that you want to create? This could be a French country office, or a sleek and modern kitchen and staircase.
- Is there something you have, or have seen, that you want to serve as your color inspiration? This could be a favorite picture or painting, a chair with a fabric you love, a piece of clothing, or a set of dishes. Be sure to bring pictures – or the item itself – to your design appointment.
- Explore your neighborhood's model home and make notes or take pictures of your favorite cabinets, flooring, lighting, fireplace mantels, countertops, bath fixtures, and so on.

IMAGINE YOUR NEW LIFESTYLE

- Print out the floor plan of your home plan and take it with you on a walk-through of your home. Think about how you plan to use each room, and note it on the floor plan. This will help you start thinking about things like the number and placement of outlets for electrical, cable, and telephone.
- Visit your home during different times of the day: mid-morning, mid-afternoon, and early evening. Consider the way natural light plays in different rooms. Will you want deep, rich tones in these spaces, or light airy colors?

- Think about traffic patterns and activities. This will help guide your decisions about carpet, tile, and wood flooring options.
- Are there any special needs that should be considered? This could be accommodating a wheelchair, or addressing allergy issues with a hypoallergenic climate control system.

MAKE THE MOST OF YOUR APPOINTMENT

- Bring your design idea-books, questions and any fabric or object that you want to incorporate into the design of your new home.
- Don't be shy about taking notes. You'll be covering a lot of information, and it's a lot to remember!
- Bring your camera (or camera phone). Capture photos of your finishes to help when you're shopping.
- Make sure all the decision-makers are at your appointment. If you and your co-buyer want to make decisions as a team, you both need to be there.
- Arrange for daycare - including doggie day care – as needed
- At the conclusion of your appointment, bring home paint chips, brochures, and any other documentation of your choices.

FOLLOW UP

- Start a file for the paperwork and documentation you received at your appointment. This can be a new section in your design idea-book, or a new permanent file. Make sure you keep information about maintenance and warranties.
- Mark ongoing deadlines on your calendar and make sure you get your design decisions in on time.
- Arrange to drop in periodically and see how your finishes look as they're installed in your home. This will help you finalize decor decisions like art, window-coverings, and task lighting.
- Expect variations. Every home is different, and your finishes will take on their own distinctive look and feel in your home.