

MRL PROJECTS



# Top Tips For An Architectural Renovation

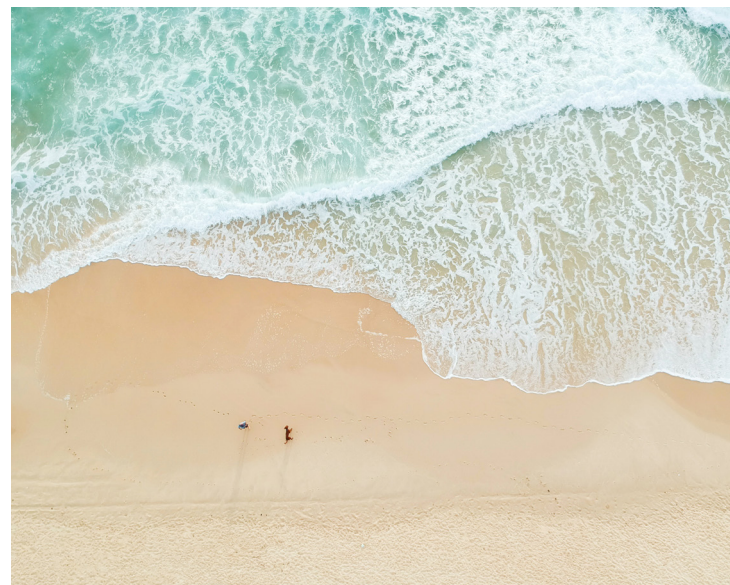
At MRL Projects, we believe that every home holds incredible potential. With years of experience elevating even the oldest homes into effortless and elegant spaces, we've compiled our list of top tips to help you navigate your next architectural renovation.

## Choose an experienced & skilled builder.

### SELECTING THE RIGHT BUILDER FOR YOUR ARCHITECTURAL RENOVATION IS ESSENTIAL.

To determine whether a builder is genuine and capable, start by exploring reviews and testimonials from previous clients. You could also browse completed projects to ensure the style and experience of the builder aligns with your vision.

It's important that you feel understood, informed and respected through every stage of your project. Ask your builder how they will communicate with you during the building process, as well as how they will proceed should challenges arise during construction. The best renovations are founded on strong teamwork and a shared vision, so take your time early on to ensure the builder you choose will view your renovation as a collaborative effort.



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# Engage your architect and builder from the outset.

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ENGAGING THE RIGHT ARCHITECT FOR YOUR PROJECT WILL ENSURE YOUR VISION IS TRANSLATED WITH STYLE AND SOPHISTICATION.

Once you've selected a builder, they should be able to provide a list of trusted architects who can interpret your goals and help bring them to life.

In an architectural renovation, meaningful partnerships are essential. Be sure to engage an architect and builder who will work collaboratively to transform your home into one that meets your needs and supports your lifestyle. A collaborative building team means a stress-free and seamless building journey from concept through to completion.



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## Look ahead to your future lifestyle.

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WHEN DESIGNING YOUR RENOVATION, CONSIDER HOW YOUR HOME WILL NEED TO EVOLVE OVER THE COMING YEARS.

Future proofing could mean incorporating a playroom that's later converted to a study, rumpus room or spare; accessibility features like ramps and wider hallways; or home automation technology that simplifies everyday living.

Planning ahead will result in a home that supports your lifestyle for many years to come. Be sure to meet with your architect and builder early in the design stage to workshop ideas and ensure your home meets your needs – now and into the future.

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## Understand any limitations & regulations.

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EVERY BUILDING PROJECT IS GOVERNED BY LOCAL BUILDING REGULATIONS.

To ensure your architectural renovation is up to code, you will need to submit applications for a building permit and development approval before construction can begin. To ensure your project remains on schedule, we recommend organising as many of these applications as you can in the early stages of design. This will likely include having land surveys, detailed drawings and engineering reports completed.

Upon completion, these documents may reveal limitations in your design, particularly if your block includes slopes or mandated access passageways. Should this be the case, your building team will be able to come up with alternate design ideas that still allow you to achieve your goals within the regulations.

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# Identify features you want to keep...

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There's nothing better than a seamless transition between the original elements of your home and your newly renovated space. If there are features of your existing design that you don't want to part with – perhaps a striking leadlight or the original exposed timber beams –consider integrating these aspects in your new design. Regardless of the style of your home, a good builder and architect will be able to create synergy between old and new.

## ...AND KEY AREAS FOR IMPROVEMENT

A high-quality architectural home works with you, not against you. Approach your renovation with function at the forefront of your mind and take time to consider what's working and, more importantly, what's not working in your existing home.

Maximise the experience of your architect and builder and organise a meeting to discuss potential ideas and savvy design features for your home that will support and enhance everyday living. For big families, this might mean a generous kitchen bench space where the kids can complete homework while the adults prepare dinner. For remote workers, it might mean incorporating a large, light-filled office that encourages productivity.



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# Establish Flow.

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ONE OF THE BEST WAYS TO ACHIEVE AN UNCOMPLICATED ARCHITECTURAL DESIGN IS TO CREATE SPACES THAT FLOW INTO EACH OTHER.

We find that the most successful renovations draw on an open-plan design, with an emphasis on large windows that maximise natural light and access to fresh air.

One of the best ways to achieve this is by removing internal walls to open up living spaces and incorporating bi-fold or sliding doors that open to the outside world. This will ensure a seamless connection not only inside, but with outdoor areas as well.

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# Work with your natural environment.

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As Northern Beaches locals, we love crafting architectural renovations that maximise the natural environment and facilitate our clients' coastal lifestyle. Whether you're building on the coast or not, be sure to consider the impact of your home on the local environment. Ensure each feature and inclusion in your new space has a purpose and, ideally, a connection to your natural surroundings.

At MRL Projects, we often recommend floor-to-ceiling windows, large balconies and sprawling outdoor living spaces. These spaces don't have to be characterised by grandeur and flashiness; in fact, the most impactful architectural homes fit seamlessly within the surrounding environment, maximising on what's already there rather than reinventing the wheel.



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# Stay Flexible.

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IF YOU'RE LOOKING FOR A HIGHLY EXPERIENCED AND COLLABORATIVE BUILDER TO GUIDE YOU THROUGH THE ARCHITECTURAL RENOVATION PROCESS, GET IN TOUCH WITH THE TEAM AT MRL PROJECTS TODAY.

[CONTACT US NOW](#)





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