



# *20 Ways to Reduce the Costs of a Bathroom Remodel*

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Knowing ways to cut costs can make the decision to do a bathroom remodel easier. Inside this guide you will find options to keeping your project on budget and feeling good about your new bathroom.

## Introduction

Are you frustrated because you just received the pricing back to what you thought was going to be your next bathroom remodel and have come to find out it was way more than you were planning for? Whether you are remodeling a hall bath, a pool bath or a master suite, often we can find ourselves wanting to get the numbers down a bit. Bathrooms can be expensive as there are a lot of moving parts and a lot of labor involved. However, a professional bathroom designer or remodeling firm can always assist you in getting the numbers down once they know your budget. Here are 20 quick tips to help keep the costs down on your next bathroom remodel.

## 20 Ways to Reduce the Costs of a Bathroom Remodel

1. If doing stone countertops, search out remnants (stone pieces remaining from previous remodel projects) for counter tops rather than making selections from full slabs. Several warehouses have left overs that are great for bathrooms at discounted prices.
2. If tiling the shower, don't tile the ceiling in the shower or tub if ceiling is 8 feet or higher. With proper ventilation, painting is just fine. Make sure to use waterproof and mildew resistant paint.
3. Depending on the condition of your existing floor tile, sometimes it pays to tile over it rather than paying to have it removed and disposed of.
4. A shower curtain is less expensive than a glass enclosure. Keep in mind, a glass enclosure can always be down the road.
5. Consider a soaking tub over a whirlpool or air tub.
6. Top Lever faucets are less expensive than wide spread faucets



7. Polished chrome is the standard finish for plumbing fixtures. Other finishes like oil rubbed bronze, brushed nickel or polished nickel are an upgrade.
8. White for sinks, toilets and tubs is the least expensive color option. All other colors like biscuit, almond, black, etc. are considered an upgrade.

9. Try to keep the configuration the same and just update the materials. Once you start moving the plumbing, electrical and wall locations, this becomes more labor intensive.
10. Keep the existing entry and closet doors, base moldings, and casings and just refinish or repaint.
11. Select a semi-custom cabinet for your vanity instead of a fully custom manufacturer. Also, inquire about the different price tiers associated with the door styles and finishes you may be considering.
12. A ceramic or porcelain tile is more cost competitive than a natural stone tile like marble, limestone, or granite. This is true not only with the actual material pricing but the labor attached to installation as well.
13. Consider a two-piece toilet over a one-piece. Also, skirted toilets are more expensive than toilets that have a visible "colon".



14. Instead of tiling half-way up the perimeter walls or doing some sort of wainscoting, consider painting instead. This can be a significant savings and can always be added at a later date.
15. Do the painting yourself.
16. Do the demolition and haul away the debris yourself.

17. Save on all material and freight charges and pick up materials yourself.
18. Choose a pressure balanced valve for your shower fixtures over a thermostatic valve. Also, talk to your plumbing expert to see if a ½" valve is an option for your plumbing selections over a ¾" valve. This too, is less expensive. Great for a hall bath scenario.
19. Re-glaze your existing cast iron tub instead of purchasing a new one.
20. Donate items to Habitat for Humanity. This is a win/win. You help people in need but also get the tax write-off.

## Conclusion

Keep in mind, every bathroom remodel is like a finger print, unique and different from the next. It is because of this that it is highly beneficial to consult with a professional designer or remodeling firm that can assist you with several additional options to help you stay within a comfortable budget. Often the best way to help keep you in budget is to share your desired budget with the company you are considering to hire at your first meeting.

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## ABOUT US

[Kitchens & Baths Unlimited](#) is a full service kitchen and bath remodeling firm of 30 years, doing business predominantly in the North Shore and Chicagoland areas.

We hope that you found this information helpful. If you would like to get started designing the bathroom of your dreams click the button below and one of our talented designers will help you get started.

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