



## Twenty (20) Questions to Ask Yourself before Getting Started

1. Where do we live now? What do we like about it? What's missing? What don't we like?
2. Do we want to change or add to the space we have?
3. Do we want to build a new house?
4. Why do we want to build a new house or add to or renovate our current home? Do we need more room? Are children grown and moving? Is our life-style changing? Are parents or children returning to live with us?
5. What is our life-style? Are we at home a great deal? Do we work at home? Do we entertain often? How much time do we spend in living areas, bedrooms, kitchen, den or office, utility space, etc.?
6. How much time and energy are we willing to invest to maintain our home?
7. If we're thinking of adding on, what functions/activities will be housed in the new space?
8. What kind of spaces do we need, e.g., bedrooms, expanded kitchen, bathrooms, etc.?
9. How many of these spaces do we think we need?
10. What do we think the addition/renovation/new home should look like?
11. How much disruption can we tolerate to add on to or renovate our home?
12. How soon would we like to be settled into our new home or addition? Are there rigid time constraints?
13. If planning on a new home, what do we envision in this home that we don't have now?
14. If we're contemplating building a home, do we have a site selected?
15. Do we have strong ideas about design styles? What are our design preferences?
16. Who will be the primary contact with the architect, contractor, and others involved in designing and building our project? (It is good to have one point of contact to prevent confusion and mixed messages)
17. What qualities are we looking for in an architect?
18. How much time do we have to be involved in the design and construction process?
19. Do we plan to do any of the work ourselves?
20. Regardless whether its an addition or a new home, how much can we realistically afford to spend?