



## What Every DIYer Should Know Before Starting A Home Project

Tackling a home project yourself is a mix of bravery, practicality, and even a little bit of risk. It's also fun and incredibly rewarding. [Total Lawn Care](#) presents these tips that every DIYer should know before diving headfirst into a big project.

### **Know how to assess your skills and ability to DIY**

Hard work and patience account for a lot, and you will surprise yourself with what you are able to accomplish around the house. YouTube and [online tutorials](#) have made DIY much easier than it ever has been, but in the end, there is still no substitute for skill, experience, and expertise.

If you're like most DIY enthusiasts, you come from a background where you're not a professional contractor, electrician, plumber, etc. That's why it's incredibly important to be able to assess your own skill level before diving headfirst into any project. Assessing your skills for DIY home projects is not unlike [assessing your skills](#), let's say, for a business job. First, make a list of all the skills you think a person who would do the job well would have and a list of the skill

deficiencies a person who would do the job poorly would have. This is a good starting point. Which list looks more like you? Do you have more positives than negatives?

If you think you can handle the technical aspect of the job, ask yourself these three [questions](#): *Do I have the right tools? Do I have enough time to complete the project on my own? Do I lack a skill that may put me in danger?*

Only proceed with a DIY project if you feel confident that you won't be completely overwhelmed.

### **Know how it's going to affect your home value**

Many DIY projects are done simply for the sake of doing them. It's your house, after all, and you want it to look and feel like you want it to. But before you sink thousands and thousands of dollars into something it's best to know which projects have the [greatest impact](#) on the value of your home. Kitchen and bathroom remodels rank high on the list, as does replacing carpet with wood or tile flooring. You don't have to do everything for the money, but it's nice to know you're not wasting it. It's also a good idea to [keep receipts](#) and take before-and-after photos.

### **Know when the time comes to call in some help**

Whether you just need some [help moving large items](#) to storage for a while, or you need to call a professional to fix what you've messed up or complete what you cannot, it's vital that you know when it's time to call for backup. The first sign that you need to hire help is that you've come to an impasse where the requirements of the job surpass your expertise, or you feel that it would be dangerous to attempt to do something yourself. For example, let's say you're knocking out a wall and you realize that electrical or plumbing needs to be moved. Unless you're highly-trained, most DIYers at this point would need to pick up the phone. If you get yourself stuck in a project that's taking much longer than anticipated, you might need help.

"Having the added pressure of doing the work yourself, while also likely working a separate, full-time job, and living through it can be a real challenge. Weigh the options to see if your time, and quality of life, is worth the money to hire a pro," [notes Plygem.com](#)

Don't be afraid to tackle home improvement projects yourself, but don't be dumb about it either. Know your limits, know how it's going to affect your home value, and know when to throw in the towel, if it comes to that.

*If caring for your lawn isn't part of your DIY plan, get in touch with the professionals at [Total Lawn Care](#). We specialize in mowing, landscaping, fertilization, and much more. Email us today at [tlclandscape@kci.net](mailto:tlclandscape@kci.net) for more information.*

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