



Design Plan Consult: Pre-Meeting Checklist

Here are some suggestions on what you should consider *in advance* of your Design Plan Consultation with us.

The intention here is for you to ponder some of these items. You do NOT need to write down responses or rehearse anything – just give it all a good think and maybe chat with those you trust that share your space (or visit often). It'll all come together when we meet.

- ✓ **Project Motivation.** See if you can summarize the motivation behind this project - Why are we doing this? What do you most want to achieve with this project? Can you condense it down into one sentence or phrase? Put into positive words that make you feel excited. Keep it brief and specific.

- ✓ **Lifestyle Priorities.** Start to think about how you live in your spaces - lifestyle priorities will influence an ideal design. Consider how you want to use each space and how you imagine the ideal flow of activities. Don't forget to include activities you do away from home that you need storage or staging space for. Try to be realistic and focused.

- ✓ **Need-to-Have vs. the Wish-List.** Start to consider how you would prioritize your needs - what's absolutely a necessity for you, what would you like but could live without if you had to, and even what you'd like to work towards but don't need immediately. This last one is important because the decisions and steps you take now may affect your ability to achieve that longer term goal down the line.

- ✓ **Floor plan & dimensions.** If you have a floorplan from an architect or builder for your space that would be useful, pull it out or make a quick copy of the basic floorplan with dimensions for reference. You do NOT need to spend time creating a floorplan on your own. We would like a good guesstimate of the square footage if you are able to provide that. If you don't have that floorplan or aren't comfortable doing this, you can hire us to do a floor plan and square footage measurement.

- ✓ **Project Limitations.** Begin to consider the major limitations to achieving your design dreams. Think about things like budget, time, special events or dates that affect your timeline, and of course the size of physical space you have to work with. If we are here to help you generate a plan for increasing your space with additions or major remodels this last item may not apply.

- ✓ **Storage & Purging.** Related to space limitations, start to think about what alternative spaces you might have outside your main living/gardening spaces for storage. At the same time spend some serious time pondering your ability, or willingness, to purge (which means donating, selling, or discarding - **not storing**) items that your space won't be able to accommodate.

If you are so inclined to get a jump on this step, that's great! Get stated with a purge before our session. Anything you just KNOW you need to part with to create opportunity for your new space -- sell it now. Donate it now. Take it to the dump now. It's okay, it's just stuff! And this will help clear the slate for us to get going on the fun stuff.

- ✓ **Design Preferences.** Finally, begin to think about some design concepts like color, light and lighting (which are not the same thing), and style. You will ultimately have to make some decisions here during our session, but they will be fairly high level and honestly, you can always change your mind down the road. But this is also where many design schemes can run off the rails very quickly due to indecision. So, this is probably a good time to really start to narrow down the stylistic elements that you absolutely love now and always will vs. those that are trendy now but not necessarily YOURS.
 - Consider setting up some idea boards on Pinterest (or even paper and tape) to share with us. Keep it simple. We will only have a few minutes to glance at this in this session so don't spend too much time on this.

- ✓ Remember that we will have a lot of information to cover and exchange in a fairly short period of time so the more thought you can put into these topics beforehand the more efficient we can be with our allotted time together.

We can't wait to get started! Every big journey begins with a single step.

The Whiskey Porch
Nordic Bungalow Lifestyle & Design
Cultivating contentment & possibility in a smaller & simpler lifestyle.