



Residential Construction Cost Quick Reference Guide

Your Construction Budget Should Include:

Architectural / Design Fees - Custom plans run from 5% to 15% of construction costs, not including the price of land. Beginning with a house plan, even with modifications, you'll likely be under 2%.

Structural Engineer Fees - Often a structural engineer will have to stamp a house plan in order to obtain building permits.

Professional Fees - Depending on your project, you may need the professional assistance of surveyors, geotechs, energy experts, etc.

Permit Fees - You'll pay a variety of fees to obtain approval for many aspects of your project.

Landscaping - Remember to include organic installation as well as lighting and other systems you may require.

Site Prep - This may include demolition, debris removal, grading, fill, etc.

Primary Construction Costs - This covers all of the projects physical elements: From excavation and slab to siding, roof, gutters, windows, siding and trim, decks; to the systems: HVAC, electrical, plumbing; to interior elements: drywall, paint, millwork, tile, cabinets, countertops, flooring; to appliances: stove, refrigerator, dishwasher, fireplaces.

Hardscape - Remember to include driveways, patios, and walkways.

Final Clean Up - At the end of construction, you'll have the expense of a final cleaning before your home is move-in ready.

Sales Tax

Builder / General Contractor Fee

Budget Buffer - Remember to keep cash on reserve for unexpected expenses or times when you'll need cash up front before a project commences.