

Homeowners of every age group continue to source do-it-yourself (DIY) content for help to try to save money and boost their sense of accomplishment. But when should you avoid DIY and turn to a pro?

When and Why to Avoid DIY

When	DIY Tasks to Avoid	DIY Mistakes/Risks
1. Risks Involving Any Safety Hazards	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Electrical work• Gas appliance repair or installation• Roof repairs or installation involving extreme heights or dangerous balancing work, especially work that should involve two or more people• Any work that involves extreme heights• Tree removal or extensive root removal• Dealing with hazardous materials: asbestos, lead, mold, silica, formaldehyde, mercury, and various corrosive or flammable chemicals (e.g., strong cleaners, solvents, and adhesives).	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Electrocutation• Fire or explosions• Gas leaks• Serious injury• Exposure to dangerous substances.
2. Permits and/or Licenses Required	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Structural modifications• Removing or adding walls, particularly load-bearing• Major plumbing or electrical overhauls• Installing new HVAC• Building additions like a deck or outdoor kitchen.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Fines• Legal issues• Being forced to redo work• Voiding homeowners' insurance• Difficulties with selling your home

3. Complex Projects

- New plumbing/drainage system installation
- Basement waterproofing
- Complex tiling or flooring installation
- Any projects beyond your current skillset
- Costly mistakes
- Water damage
- Mold growth
- Property damage
- Shoddy workmanship devalues your home and its sellability

4. Time/Budget Constraints

- Under a tight schedule or whenever the project has a hard deadline, such as when preparing for a sale.
- Unless you are an expert, DIY projects can be stressful, disrupt daily life, and typically take longer than expected, leading to stress, disruption of daily life
- Potentially left with incomplete or poorly finished work as consequence of missing or inadequate expertise

5. Lack of Tools/Expertise

- Projects requiring expensive and specialized tools that will likely only be used once
- Despite availability of online tutorials, lacking in the necessary knowledge or capability
- Monies wasted on tools and materials
- High potential for injuries
- Paying twice for the project because you're forced to hire a professional to fix your initial errors or poor craftsmanship

For further details, please visit Ed's *Nailing It* blog and read:

THE 5 TIMES HOMEOWNERS SHOULD AVOID DIY

Before undertaking a DIY project in your home, call [Ed Neir Construction](#) at 707-999-5878 to set an appointment for a free consultation, or send a text to 408-368-7162 for a rapid response.