

A man and a woman are looking at architectural blueprints in a construction setting. The man is on the left, wearing a plaid shirt, and the woman is on the right, wearing a white shirt. They are both looking down at the blueprints. The background is a blurred construction site.

RENOVATION CHECKPOINTS

What to Check Before You Move On
(and Pay the Next Invoice)

SMART RENOVATORS ACADEMY

RENOVATING WITHOUT REWORK STARTS HERE

Most people don't pay twice because they make bad decisions.

They pay twice because they move on because they are not sure what to check off as **done right**.

Once something is covered up, waterproofing, wiring, framing - fixing it later becomes expensive, stressful, and disruptive.

This checklist shows you:

- what should be done at each stage
- what to check before moving forward
- what's costly (or impossible) to fix later

You don't need to be on site every day. You just need to know when it matters.



STAGE 1: PLANNING & PRE-START

BEFORE WORK BEGINS

What should be done:

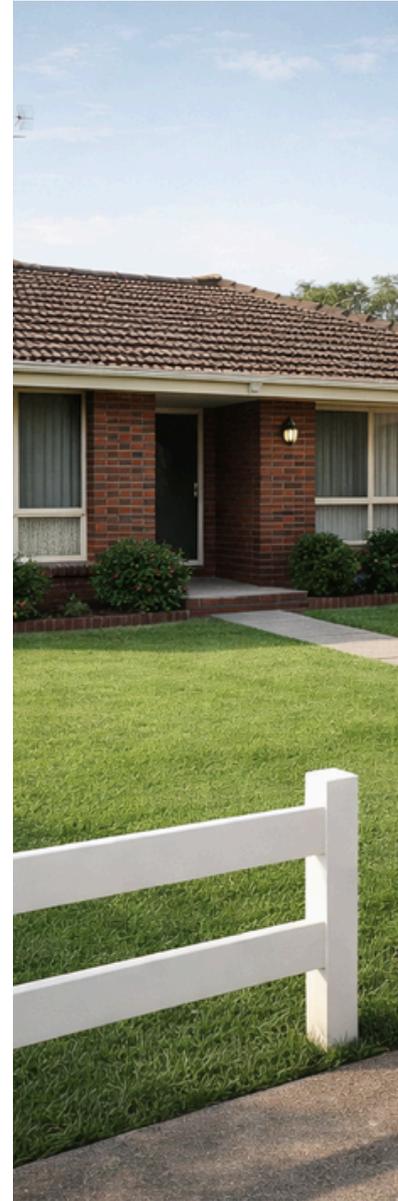
- Scope of Works clearly defined (by trade)
- Inclusions and exclusions listed
- Materials & fixtures confirmed
- Budget allowances realistic
- Timeline and stage order agreed

WHAT TO CHECK BEFORE MOVING ON:

- ✓ Does the scope clearly say who supplies what?
- ✓ Are finishes, fixtures, and quantities listed - not assumed?
- ✓ Are "PC sums" and allowances realistic?
- ✓ Do all trades quote from the same scope?

Costly if missed later:

- ⚠ Variations
- ⚠ Disputes over "that wasn't included"
- ⚠ Paying extra for items you thought were covered



STAGE 2: DEMO & ROUGH-IN

BEFORE WALLS AND FLOORS ARE CLOSED UP

What should be done:

- Structural framing completed correctly
- Plumbing rough-in installed
- Electrical rough-in installed
- Noggins and blocking in place (for fixtures, rails, cabinets)

WHAT TO CHECK BEFORE MOVING ON:

- ✓ Are power points, lighting, and switches where you expect?
- ✓ Are plumbing points positioned for your fixtures?
- ✓ Is blocking installed for towel rails, vanities, cabinetry?
- ✓ Has anything changed from the original plan?

Costly if missed later:

- ⚠ Chasing walls after sheeting
- ⚠ Relocating plumbing or wiring
- ⚠ Compromising layout or storage



STAGE 3: PRE-TILE & WATERPROOFING

THIS IS ONE OF THE MOST COSTLY AREAS TO FIX
AND OUR MOST COMMON AREA TO GO WRONG

BEFORE TILES GO DOWN

What should be done:

- Waterproofing installed to Australian Standards
- Falls to floor wastes correct
- Puddle flanges installed where required
- Membranes fully cured before tiling

WHAT TO CHECK BEFORE MOVING ON:

- ✓ Has waterproofing been inspected before tiles?
- ✓ Are shower floors graded correctly to wastes?
- ✓ Are wall and floor junctions sealed properly?
- ✓ Has curing time been allowed?

Costly if missed later:

- ⚠ Water leaks
- ⚠ Mould and damage
- ⚠ Tile removal and full rework



STAGE 4: FIT-OFF & FINISHES

BEFORE FINAL PAYMENTS

What should be done:

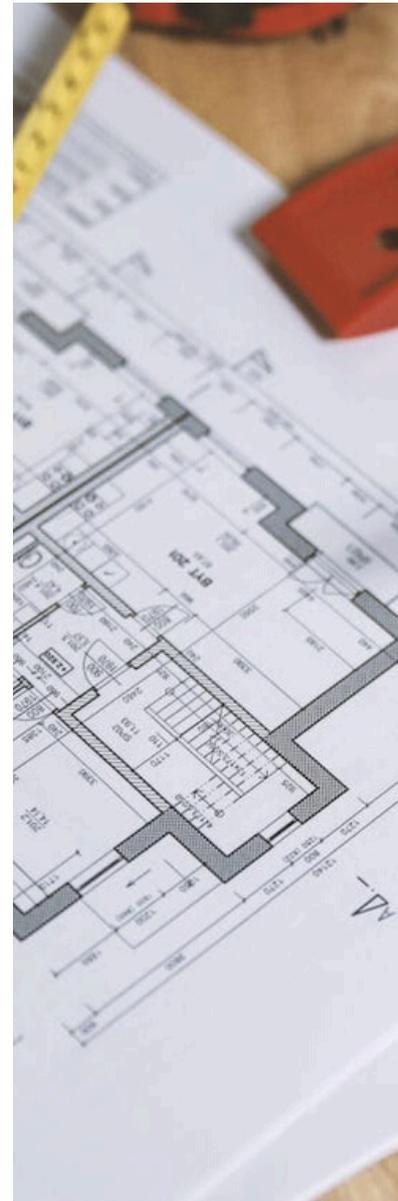
- Fixtures installed correctly
- Cabinetry aligned and secure
- Doors, drawers, and hardware functioning
- Paint, tiles, and finishes completed cleanly

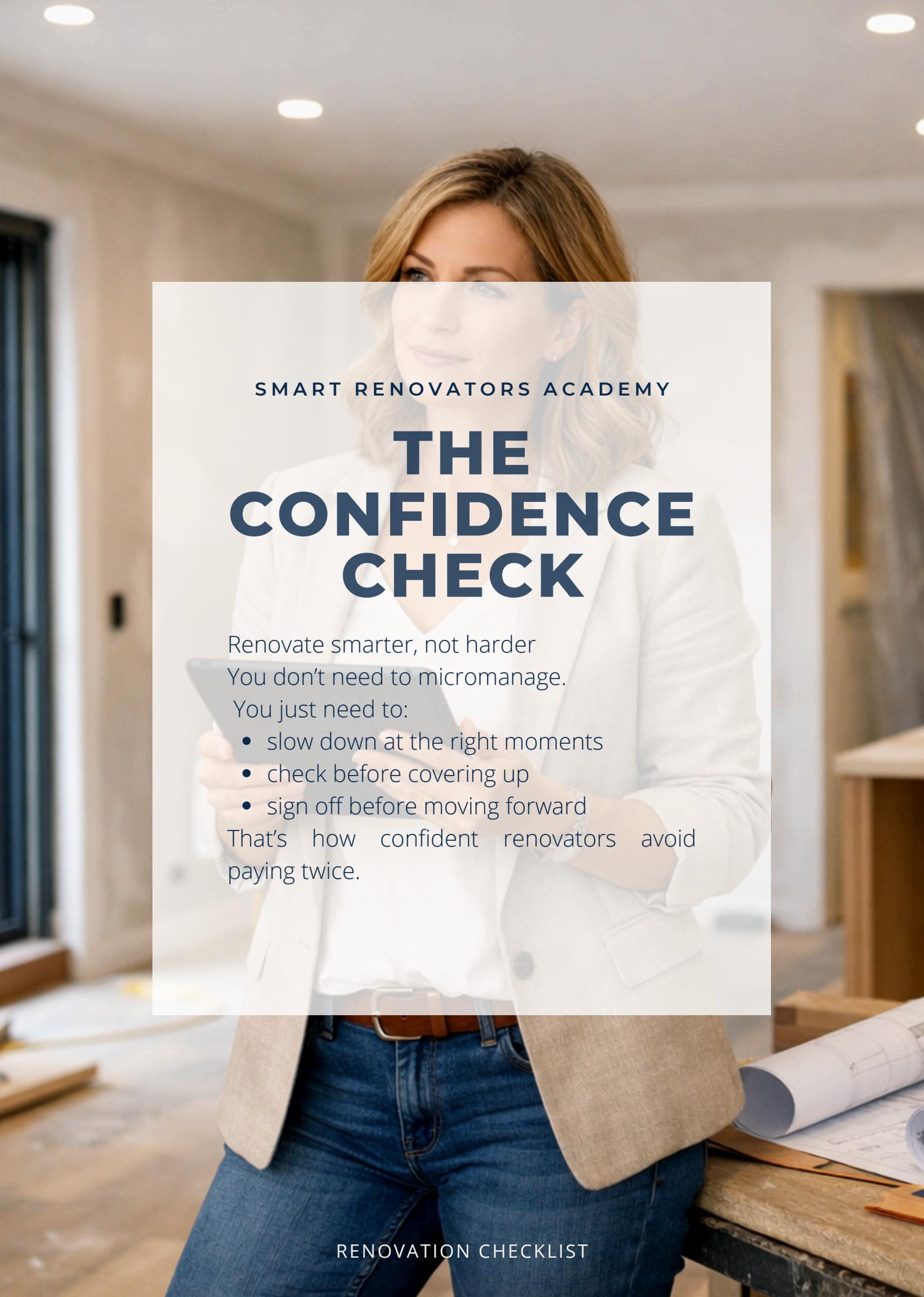
WHAT TO CHECK BEFORE MOVING ON:

- ✓ Do all fixtures work as intended?
- ✓ Are finishes consistent and undamaged?
- ✓ Has everything in the scope been delivered?
- ✓ Are defects listed before final payment?

Costly if missed later:

- ⚠ Chasing fixes after trades leave
- ⚠ Paying extra for call-backs
- ⚠ Living with defects



A woman with blonde hair, wearing a white blazer and blue jeans, is holding a tablet computer. She is standing in a construction site, with a wooden workbench and blueprints visible in the foreground. The background shows a building under construction with wooden framing and a window.

SMART RENOVATORS ACADEMY

THE CONFIDENCE CHECK

Renovate smarter, not harder
You don't need to micromanage.
You just need to:

- slow down at the right moments
- check before covering up
- sign off before moving forward

That's how confident renovators avoid
paying twice.

RENOVATION CHECKLIST

SMART RENOVATORS ACADEMY

RESOURCE LIBRARY



OUTDOOR REVIVAL GUIDE

Transform your backyard into a functional, beautiful outdoor living space with this trade-inspired Outdoor Revival Guide.

[DOWNLOAD](#)



TIPS FROM THE TRADIE

Avoid delays, budget blowouts, and renovation stress by understanding how renovations actually run -before the first trade steps on site.

[DOWNLOAD](#)



RENO TIPS

Practical renovation guidance for Australian homeowners who want to avoid costly mistakes, communicate clearly with trades, and feel confident at every stage of their project.

[BLOG](#)



SMART RENOVATORS ACADEMY

RENOVATION MISTAKES ARE EASY TO AVOID WHEN YOU KNOW WHAT TO LOOK FOR

Become The Empowered Renovator TODAY

[LEARN MORE](#)

SMART RENOVATORS ACADEMY

RENOVATION COACH



MEET ROB

Trade Backed Supports

Rob brings over 20 years of hands-on experience across residential construction, renovations, and site management in Australia. He's worked on countless construction projects from early planning through to completion, giving him deep insight into where things commonly go wrong, and how to prevent them. Rob specialises in scope clarity, quality control, and on-site sequencing, helping homeowners avoid costly rework and unnecessary stress. His approach is practical and grounded, focused on clear communication between homeowners and trades rather than micromanagement.

RENOVATION CHECKPOINTS