

Renovation ease

PHOTOGRAPHY BY CHRIS THWAITES

Foresight makes plumbing projects flow smoothly

Imagine redoing your bathroom or kitchen. You probably picture your life turned upside down, a summer spent hauling water from the lake or joining a gym just so you can use the showers.

It doesn't have to be that way. "If it's done properly, a plumbing update can be fast and relatively painless," says Marc Benoit.

The owner of Plumbtech, one of the most established plumbing contractors in the region, Marc and his team have helped hundreds of homeowners and cottagers through all kinds of plumbing renovations.

"Your kitchen and your bathroom are the heart of the home, and going without them will cause some disruption," says Marc. "But we can minimize that by doing the work quickly, doing it right, and getting out of your way."

Use your assets

If you have two or more bathrooms, it may be tempting to have both of them renovated at once – after all, the workers are already on site, right?

Don't do it, Marc says. "If you're renovating one bathroom, you're going to need to use the other one. If you try to do two at once, your

headaches have just increased exponentially."

For a big kitchen renovation, it may be worth setting up a temporary food prep area. "It can make sense to install a temporary sink in another room – perhaps a basement where there's already a rough-in for a future bathroom," Marc says. "It's a small cost, but it can make your place much more livable during the renovation."

That temporary installation may also be converted into a pet-washing station, a simple luxury that dog owners can all appreciate.

Plan and buy ahead

Still trying to decide between a rainfall shower and a body spray? Can't make up your mind about two brands of faucet? Now's the time to make a decision.

"You want to have all your fixtures purchased and on-site before the work begins," says

Marc. "Most of our clients buy their own fixtures and just have us install them. If we know exactly what's going to be installed, we can ensure that all the components are there. There's no guesswork, no hesitation. It's just so much more efficient."

Think of the future

There's a lot of future-proofing that can be done while the home or cottage is in turmoil.

If you're opening up walls, it's a simple matter to install and conceal the groundwork for future renovations. From blocking for grab bars, enlarging door openings, to the rough-ins that will one

day let you convert a bedroom into a larger bathroom, wet bar or guest suite, it can all be installed now, saving you time and money the next time you're looking to upgrade.

Plumbtech is a full service plumbing company that can handle any project, Marc notes. "We work together with qualified general contractors and design experts to get the job done right!" **DS**

BY ANDREW WAGNER-CHAZALON

**plumbtech**
PLUMBING INC

24 Ferndale Drive North, Barrie
705-722-7209
www.PlumbtechPlumbing.com

Marc Benoit, Owner of Plumbtech Plumbing.

Featured project in collaboration with Crown Point Homes and Catherine Staples Interiors.

