



Home Elevator Planning Worksheet

The list below is not exhaustive, but is intended to provide a solid starting point to assist you in the planning phase of your project. Use the spaces below each question for your notes and make sure to add any additional questions you have for your local home elevator company at the bottom of this worksheet.

Dimensions – How large will the elevator need to be in order to accommodate all necessary passengers and any items that will be transported? Are there mobility devices in use today? Certain medical conditions require use of a reclined wheelchair which will take up more space and require a larger elevator car. How large will the elevator need to be in order to ensure all current and future family members and guests can ride comfortably?

Size of home – How many floors does the elevator need to service?

Elevator configuration – Will the entry and exit of the elevator car be on the same side? Would it work better to have an alternate configuration where the exit is straight across or at a 90 degree angle from the entrance?

Car design – A home elevator can be customized to match your home or to stand out as a focal point. Home elevator design galleries can be helpful in the brainstorming process. How would you like your elevator to look? What materials will be used in the elevator? Would you like a classic or modern feel? What features and design elements would you like incorporated into the elevator car? What kind of lighting, fixtures and handrails would you like to incorporate? What kind of elevator doors and gates would you like on the elevator car and on the hoistway?

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Drive system – If you have familiarity with home elevator drive systems, you may already have a preference. If not, do a little more research on some of the primary drives (inline gear drive, hydraulic drive and winding drum drive). Would you prefer the elevator take up less space and not have a separate machine room? Would you prefer to avoid having hydraulic fluid in the home? Your personal preferences will assist in guiding you to the appropriate drive system for your home elevator.

Installation – What will be required during the installation? Will there be costs tied to the permit process? How complicated is the installation? Does a hoistway exist? Does any electrical work need to be completed? What tradesmen need to be involved and what costs should be anticipated above and beyond the cost of the elevator?

Maintenance – What additional costs are tied to ongoing maintenance of the elevator? How frequently will maintenance visits be scheduled?

Warranty – What is covered under the elevator's warranty? Are extended warranties available at an additional cost?

Questions – What other questions remain for your local elevator company?
