TRINITY FENCE & DECK

ELEVATING OUTDOOR LIVING

Plan It Once, Plan It Well

Fence & Deck Budget Planning Checklist

Curated by Trinity Fence & Deck

Use this checklist to plan realistically and avoid surprises when budgeting your outdoor project.

Project Basics

☐ Define the purpose of your fence or deck (privacy, safety, pets, entertaining, aesthetics)

☐ Measure approximate linear footage or square footage

☐ Decide if this is a repair, replacement, or brand-new build

☐ Confirm your desired project timeline

Materials & Design

☐ Choose material type (cedar, pine, steel, composite, etc.)

☐ Decide on height, style, and layout

☐ Account for hardware, fasteners, and finishes

☐ Consider stain, sealant, or finish options

☐ Check HOA requirements or design restrictions

Site Conditions (Often Overlooked)

☐ Slopes, uneven ground, or elevation changes

☐ Rocky soil, clay, or difficult digging conditions

☐ Tree roots, irrigation lines, or utilities

☐ Old fence or deck tear-out and disposal

☐ Drainage or water runoff concerns

Labor & Construction

☐ Professional installation vs. DIY comparison

☐ Post depth and spacing requirements

☐ Framing complexity (for decks)

☐ Staircases, gates, or custom features

☐ Crew access and staging space

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Permits, Codes & Compliance

☐ HOA approvals and review timelines

☐ Property line verification (plats) if applicable

Budget Flexibility

☐ Establish a comfortable budget range (not just a single number)

☐ Identify "must-haves" vs. "nice-to-haves"

☐ Plan for material price fluctuations

☐ Set aside a contingency buffer (recommended 10–15%)

Long-Term Value

☐ Expected lifespan of materials

☐ Maintenance requirements and future costs

☐ Warranty coverage

☐ Resale or property value considerations

Before Requesting an Estimate

☐ Gather inspiration photos

☐ List questions about materials and build methods

☐ Clarify what is included in the estimate

☐ Ask about timeline, prep work, and cleanup

Have questions? Call or text us at 512-931-4887 or you can click HERE to contact us using our simple form. Need to review our financing options? Click HERE to check out how to move your project forward. We look forward to helping you get that project off the to do list!