

MIDMAR GROUP NEWSLETTER



7 Tips to Make Your Next Home Renovation a Breeze

New to the Group

New Product Feature

Local Community News

Group Achievements

Midmar Crushers Emphasis on Education

WHAT YOU'LL ALSO FIND INSIDE:

- MIDMAR CONCRETE PRODUCTS NEW PLANT UP AND RUNNING
- MIDMAR CRUSHERS STRIKES GOLD AGAIN AT ASPASA AWARDS

7 TIPS TO MAKE YOUR NEXT HOME RENOVATION A BREEZE

Thinking of renovating your home might conjure up feelings of fear, anxiety and exhaustion for some, and could be seen as a mountain too steep to climb for others. However, just as with life, there are always simple solutions that can be done on a regular basis to make the experience an enjoyable one.

Here are 7 easy ideas to help you gain back your control when undertaking home renovations and avoid a hit and miss with your efforts.

1. Have a Long Bucket List

One can easily be overwhelmed by the debris and clutter left behind after the demolition of a wall or an entire room during home renovations. An easy trick to deal with this is to clean up your surroundings regularly after every section being demolished. One of the best ways to transport your debris from indoors to outdoors is by using old buckets you have lying around the garage. Old buckets are essential tools when renovating and can also be used for mixing products, transporting tools, storing liquids and, when turned upside down, can even be used as a seat.



"Every great building once begun as a building plan. That means, sitting in that building plan on the table is a mighty structure not yet seen. It is the same with dreams."
Israelmore Ayivor

2. Don't Be Listless

This may seem like a trivial tip, but it can save you tons of time and effort on a daily basis. Always carry a pencil and notepad with you when renovating so you can jot down the tools or materials needed for the next day, or even supplies that you need to purchase. This will help you keep track of your project with ease.



3. Make a Safe Path

The one sure thing about renovating your home is that you will create a mess while doing it. Most of the time renovations are only isolated to one room or one section of your home, however if you need to get to another area of your house you end up tracking the dust, dirt and debris with you. To avoid this, create a protective path starting from the area of construction leading to the main areas of your home such as the kitchen or main bedroom. A simple hack is using old carpets or rugs to cover your floor path. Canvas cloths are a good option for covering staircases. These protective measures will ensure that the pain of cleaning up will be minor and short-lived.

4. Supplies Central

Once the wrath of destruction is complete in your demolition area and you're ready to start with detailed renovation, it's a good idea to set up a supplies station. This is one location that will contain any tools, wood, saws, fasteners, chargers, and even water and soft drinks that you need. Once you are done using any of the supplies, remember to place it back at the station. If everything you need is in one place, this will save a great deal of time searching for materials, or trying to remember where you stored that one tool that always seems to run away from you.

5. Building is just like a box of tools...you should always know what you're gonna get!

Although it might seem like a tedious task, organizing your tools according to each construction job will save you an incredible amount of time and effort. If you have a box dedicated to plumbing, and another box dedicated to electrical work, and so on, then this will make it much easier when working on each project. This means that you might end up with a few duplicated tools. However, when you take into account the benefits of not searching in a pile of assorted tools and materials to find what you need every time you want to renovate or fix something, the extra material will be worth it



6. Nail the Problem

When renovating your home there will always be pieces of timber with nails in them lying around. A useful, and possibly pain-saving tip is to make it a rule to inspect every piece of timber you work with for any nails before you set it down and move on to your next task. If you are going to use the timber again, remove any nails immediately. If you are not, then simply bend the nails towards the timber. The last thing you need is to take a step back to proudly look at your new home only to impale your foot on a nail.



"Good Buildings come from Good People & All Problems are Solved by Good Design"
Stephen Gardiner



7. Fasten your Toolboxes

Usually one might think that they will only need a couple sizes of fasteners for their project but realize as they go on that they will need many more. A helpful tip that will save you lots of time and also spare your sanity is to keep all of your fasteners, along with a variety of bits in one toolbox.

NEW TO THE GROUP

New Retail Experience for Customers



Above: The new store layout of Midmar Building Supplies

In our last newsletter we documented the progress of the new extension added to our building trade depot Midmar Building Supplies to allow for an expanded product range. Accompanying this change is our new store design and layout, developed to enhance the overall shopping experience for our customers. The journey to get to where we are, as with all building projects, did require a lot of effort from our building team and staff members to ensure the best design and construction was performed. We would like to thank them for their hard work and dedication. The road to our improved retail experience also asked for a good deal of patience from our much-valued customers. We are very grateful that we got through it together and now have a well-rounded finished product. With more shelving, more space and a wider range of building materials and hardware to choose from, any building contractor or homeowner will feel right at home.

New Plant for Concrete Manufacturing Yard

For the past decade Midmar Concrete Products has been producing high quality blocks, bricks and retainers and has always placed an emphasis on precise and careful manufacturing. To assist with the growing demand for their concrete commodities, the company has acquired a new plant in order to produce higher volumes of product. This new plant has the ability to produce a variety of concrete products that include blocks, bricks, retainers, and pavers. Congrats MCP and keep up the great work!



Left: The new production plant at Midmar Concrete Products

Below: Concrete blocks being stacked carefully in the yard



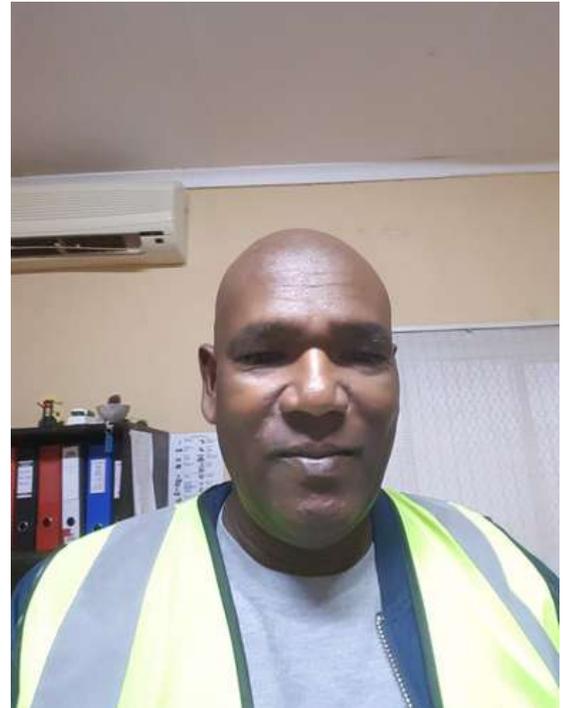
New to the Midmar Family

It's always exciting to welcome a new member to the family and in the month of March, Midmar Group had the pleasure of welcoming three new employees to their kin.

Chris Pillay **Midmar Crushers Quarry Manager**

Chris has been Mine Manager at Umhlali Quarry and has a strong SHEQ background. He has a National Diploma in Analytical Chemistry as well a Degree in Quality Assurance.

His experience within the Quarrying industry is impressive and we look forward to seeing him excel in his position.



Pretesh Jugdhis **Midmar Building Supplies** **Retail Manager**

Pretesh has been in the retail industry for over 10 years managing small enterprises to large international companies. He started his retail career as a cashier working part time while studying and grew through the ranks.

He is married and a proud dad of 2 little boys. Pretesh enjoys meeting new people and visiting new places locally and abroad. When he's not working, he spends time with family or restores old vehicles. He also enjoys fishing when he can.



Chris Robberts **Midmar Group Mechanic**

Chris has been married to his wife, Lisa, for nearly 17 years, and they have twins boys Jared and Joshua, aged 15. He also has two older children, Dominique and Jason and the newest addition to his family, Regan, his 4mth old grandson.

Chris has been in the Diesel Mechanic trade for over 30 years and Earthmoving machinery runs in his blood he says. He enjoys spending quality time with his family, as QUALITY means more than QUANTITY to him.

He has a keen interest in Fishing, Hunting and Target shooting. Chris's hands don't only mix with grease and oil, but he's a keen gardener too, and working in his garden makes him feel, especially the end result of accomplishment.

"Family is important to me, as well as doing what I do best and that's working on Earthmoving Machinery".



We hope that our new employees have a fulfilling and rewarding stay with the Group that will see them prosper to new heights in their chosen positions.

New Product Feature

Add Dimension to your Surroundings and Protect your Environment with Concrete Retainers

Retaining walls are a great addition to any landscape to prevent soil erosion and create stability in a sloped environment. They also serve as an ideal spot to grow plants and add aesthetic appeal to your surroundings.

The primary goal of constructing a retaining wall is to create a tiered wall in a sloped area to hold the earth and soil in place.

- Other advantages of constructing a retaining wall are:
- Flooding prevention
- Adding value to your home
- By holding back earth and water, retaining walls make your environment much more functional
- Its a great place to plant flowers or create a sloped garden
- A sloped environment in a residential property can make it quite difficult for construction to take place. If retaining walls are built in these hilly, unsafe and inaccessible areas it will then make it possible for walkways and decks to be built. A retaining wall also creates a beautiful and dramatic entrance to a property
- They are very low maintenance if they are constructed well.



At MIDMAR BUILDING SUPPLIES we provide retainers that are long lasting and durable and have been manufactured with precision at our in-house concrete yard MIDMAR CONCRETE PRODUCTS.

Our retainers come in a wide range of colours that include grey, red, charcoal, apricot and brown.

Local Community News

Wingman to Our Flying Friends

Midmar Building Supplies were happy to continue to support the inspirational FreeMe Wildlife Rehabilitation KZN by donating sand and stone that will be used to create a safe environment for their injured bats. FreeMeKZN is a wonderful NGO that rehabilitates wounded wildlife and birds. Even those who soar high in the night sky need a helping hand and we hope that our injured friends will soon be able to soar even higher!



Above: Midmar Building Supplies offloading the sand and stone to be used in the bat enclosure

"Whatever Good Things We Build End Up Building Us"
Jim Rohn

Group Achievements

Midmar Crushers Scoops Up Environmental Award Again

Every year the Aggregate and Sand Producers Association of Southern Africa (ASPASA) awards companies that maintain a healthy and sustainable business.

Midmar Crushers recently won the About Face Environmental Award 2018.

This award emphasises the following:

- Operating at a high environmental standard
- Minimizing environmental impact upon the land and people
- Operating to standards higher than those required by law
- Ensuring all employees conform to environmental policy objectives
- Responding effectively to the interests of the community.

In order to win this award, hard work and dedication have to be present in all aspects of operation on a daily basis.

Well Done to our Midmar Crushers Team!



Above Left: William Pitout of Midmar Crushers with the Aspasa Environmental Award handed to the Quarry;
Above Right: A close up of the Aspasa trophy for Best Environmental Top Independent Performer for 2018;

Midmar Concrete Products Excels in Growth



Above left: The Midmar Concrete Products Team;
 Above right: Cash vouchers awarded to the team by Afrisam.

Our Midmar Concrete Products team have a lot to be proud of as the company was placed 4th overall in KwaZulu-Natal for the Fastest Growing Concrete Manufacturers in the province.

The accolade was awarded to MCP by Afrisam cement and a cash prize of R3500 was allocated to the company.

This money will be shared amongst the staff members for their ongoing commitment. Keep up the great work guys!

“The whole difference between construction and creation is exactly this: that a thing constructed can only be loved after it is constructed; but a thing created is loved before it exists”
Charles Dickens

Midmar Crushers Equipped with the Power of Education



Regional Mine Manager Bronwyn Moore together with ISS Managing Director Morne Van Der Merwe handing out ABET certificates to Midmar Crushers employees. Employees from Top Left Clockwise: Nkosikhona Petronella Khumalo, Thenjiwe Cecilia Maningi, Leon Nicholaas Vosloo, Nokuphenduka Ngema, and Purity Khonzaphi Dlamini.

Midmar Group and Midmar Crushers are proud of five of their hard-working employees who have just received their ABET Certificates of Competency from Innovative Shared Services. The students attended lessons for one full day a week for four months and have successfully completed ABET Literacy and ABET Numeracy training. This shows that although the road to education is long, the journey of learning is most rewarding. We wish them all the best for their future studies! Our quarries have already taken on their next batch of employees to begin their ABET training this year, with 4 employees being recruited from Midmar Crushers and one employee from Taylor's Halt Quarry. We wish them the best of luck and we know they will do us proud!

Midmar Crushers Bursaries

Aligned with the theme of education, Midmar Crushers also awarded bursaries to four students for 2019. The degrees that these students will be assisted in include a Bachelor of Education Degree, a B-Tech in Nature Conservation, an Electrical Engineering Diploma, and a Masters in Geology. We hope these students will gain a great deal of knowledge from their studies that will propel them further in their future careers.