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Building Success 101

Q: How difficult is it to move a wall to enlarge a room?

A: That depends. If the wall is non-structural (meaning it is not vital to the home's stability), moving it slightly is usually an easy undertaking. However, if moving the wall affects the size or location of a door, window opening or other feature in that room or an adjacent space, the alteration is more difficult, time-consuming, and costly. The movement of a structural wall (one that is vital to the home's stability) is often prohibitively difficult.

Fall Home Check-Up

The change of seasons is a great time for home maintenance. Cooler temperatures and shorter daylight hours remind us that winter is approaching, so use this time to perform a check-up of your home.

Outside

- Fertilize your lawn, remove fallen leaves and debris to prevent damage to the grass
- Clean rain gutters and downspouts, re-caulk joints if needed
- Inspect the weather stripping around exterior doors, repair or replace if needed
- Inspect outdoor electrical fixtures, wipe down glass panels, remove bird nests and spider webs, replace burned out bulbs
- Check hose bibs and hose attachments for leaks, drain hoses of water and keep faucet covers on hand in preparation for cold weather

Inside

- Check windows to ensure secure closure, re-caulk seals and repair or replace window coverings if needed
- Inspect sinks, faucets, and toilet tanks for leaks
- Clean out the clothes dryer duct and damper, clean underneath washer and dryer
- Inspect fireplaces, follow manufacturers instructions to clean the flue and glass panels, arrange for professional chimney cleaning if needed
- Inspect heating unit, replace air filters and clean grilles
- Test smoke detectors, replace batteries if needed, follow the manufacturer's directions for cleaning and servicing
- Test fire extinguishers, replace if out of date
- Ensure that all electrical cords are in good repair
- Clean the range hood filter to prevent grease build-up

Note: The Landed Gentry homeowner manual contains many additional suggestions and procedures for home maintenance throughout the year.



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Warm regards,

Brian

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