Hurricane & Storm-Resilient Remodeling Tips

Living in Southwest Florida means planning for paradise and for the storms that come with it. At Banyan Living, we believe a remodel should do more than look beautiful — it should make your home stronger, safer, and more resilient.

These tips will help you make informed choices that protect your home, your investment, and your peace of mind.



Upgrade to Impact-Rated Windows & Doors

Your first line of defense starts here. Impact-resistant glass and hurricane-rated doors protect your home from windborne debris and pressure changes during storms.

- Look for products that meet Miami-Dade or Florida Building Code standards.
- Don't forget the frames aluminum and reinforced vinyl hold up best in coastal climates.
- Bonus: they improve energy efficiency and noise reduction year-round.
- Pro Tip: Replacing old sliders or French doors during a remodel is one of the smartest upgrades for both safety and resale value.

Strengthen the Roof & Structural Connections

Even if your remodel is focused inside, don't ignore what's above you. Roof and framing connections are critical during hurricanes.

- Ask about hurricane straps, clips, and tie-downs that reinforce your roof structure.
- Use roofing materials rated for 150+ mph winds.
- Have your contractor inspect trusses, soffits, and attic ventilation.
- Pro Tip: If you're remodeling after Hurricane Ian or Helene, ask for a full roof assessment many hidden structural issues don't show up until the next big storm.

Choose Water-Resistant Materials

Southwest Florida humidity and storm exposure can take a toll. Choose materials that stand up to moisture and heat.

- Cabinetry: Consider water-resistant or marine-grade plywood (like EnduraFlood materials).
- Flooring: Luxury vinyl plank (LVP), tile, or sealed concrete perform better than wood.
- Walls: Moisture-resistant drywall and mold-resistant paints prevent long-term damage.
- Pro Tip: Materials designed for durability don't have to sacrifice style our Coastal Luxe palette pairs strength with sophistication.

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Elevate Electrical & Mechanical Systems

If you live in a flood-prone area, small adjustments can make a big difference.

- Elevate electrical outlets, panels, and HVAC equipment above potential flood levels.
- Anchor outdoor compressors and fuel tanks securely.
- Install surge protection for the whole house.
- 🥊 Pro Tip: Even a few inches of elevation can save thousands in repair costs later.



Secure Outdoor Features

Patios, lanais, and outdoor kitchens are part of the SWFL lifestyle — but they also need protection.

- Install removable storm-rated screens or impact shutters for open spaces.
- Anchor pergolas, awnings, and cabinetry to prevent uplift.
- Choose wind-rated fans and fixtures for outdoor ceilings.
- 💡 Pro Tip: Design outdoor features that can be easily closed, covered, or stored when storms approach.

Plan Ahead During Permitting

Remodeling is the perfect time to make code updates.

- Lee County's permitting process already considers hurricane resistance use that to your advantage.
- Upgrading to code now can save you major costs (and insurance headaches) later.
- Work only with licensed contractors who understand local inspection requirements.
- 🥊 Pro Tip: At Banyan Living, we handle all permitting and inspections so your remodel meets every safety and code standard.



Final Thoughts

A well-designed remodel can do more than refresh your home - it can protect it. Whether you're updating a single space or tackling a full renovation, our goal is to make your home as resilient as it is beautiful.

When you're ready to start, we'll bring the experience, craftsmanship, and peace of mind that only comes from working with a licensed Florida contractor who calls this community home.

Let's Build Stronger, Together.

Call (239) 464-1830 or visit <u>banyanlivingfl.com</u> to schedule your consultation today.