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316 E. WASHINGTON ST., CHARLES TOWN, WV

This updated 4 bedroom, 2 bath Colonial Revival style home in historic Charles Town offers a blend of original details and charm with attractive and functional updates. A freshly painted exterior, extensive repainting in the interior, two new heat pumps, rebuilt front and rear porches and a recently finished lower level with a possible 5th bedroom make this home one to see! The large (8 x 35) front porch features Tuscan-style tapered columns and is a great space to relax after work or watch the parade. The large, paneled front door is flanked by twin sidelights and beneath a large transom, allowing indirect sunlight into the large foyer beyond. Original heart-pine floors dominate the first floor, with original stained and painted woodwork throughout and 9+ foot ceilings. The large great room has tall windows and opens into the gourmet kitchen, featuring professional

grade stainless steel appliances, quartz countertops and custom-made natural cherry cabinetry. The first-floor bedroom has room for a king-sized bed and all the accessories. The first floor full bath with a 5-foot tub/shower with wainscot surround and a nice. louvered vanity with matching cabinetry, mirror and light sconces above, and luxury vinyl plank flooring. The first-floor laundry room with a large window overlooks the rear yard inclueds nice cabinetry and shelving. Upstairs you'll find 3 large bedrooms, each with large windows and pine floors, and a large walk-in closet on the hallway with a window. Down the hall is a full bath with subway tiled walls and a basket-weave ceramic tiled floor. Up one more flight of stairs is the full, floored attic, great for all of your seasonal storage needs. The English-style basement is a pleasant surprise, recently renovated with an industrial-style theme. White-washed stone walls reflect light, while painted floors and exposed beams and ductwork give the space a rustic charm. There's a large recreation room here and a room that could become a fifth bedroom by adding a larger window. An exit door in the rear leads to the fully fenced rear yard with a large covered rear porch, a 6-foot wood privacy fence, paved off-street parking and plenty of room to garden, barbeque, and entertain. Don't miss your chance to own a fine home in "Charlestown," laid out in 1786 by Charles Washington, George Washington's youngest brother. Call now for your private showing, before it's history. WVJF2010214 \$429,900

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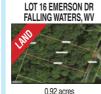
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Waste Management1	-800-926-6806
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State Police	.304-267-0000
FBI	.304-263-3421
Berkeley Medical Center	.304-264-1000
Emergency Room	.304-264-1215

Morgan County

City Police (Berkeley Springs).304-258-1198
City Police (Paw Paw)304-94	17-7476 Sheriff's
Office	304-258-1067
State Police	304-258-0000
FBI	304-263-3421
War Memorial Hospital	304-258-1234
Emergency Room	304-258-6536

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City Police (Ranson)304-725-2411
City Police (Harpers Ferry)304-535-6366
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How DIY can be bad for homeowners

Homeowners know it can be tempting to go the do-it-yourself (DIY) route when starting a home improvement project. Home repairs and renovations can be costly, and the notion of saving money on such projects compels many homeowners to try their hand at home improvements. However, the DIY approach can be costly as well, and if things go awry, homeowners may end up with empty pockets and unfinished projects.

Online tutorials and advertisements for home improvement retailers can make DIY seem like a snap. However, there are potential pitfalls to consider that could make the ostensibly less expensive DIY route far more detrimental to the bottom line than homeowners may recognize.

 Permits: Permits ensure work is done in accordance with local codes, which are designed to ensure the safety of residents and their neighbors. Licensed contractors know which permits are necessary for projects they're hired to work on, and many even procure permits for their clients (homeowners are urged to read estimates and contracts to determine who will be responsible for acquiring the appropriate permits). DIYers may not know about local permits, and therefore go ahead with projects without procuring any. That can be harmful in the short- and long-term. In the short-term, a failure to procure the appropriate permits can make a home less safe and potentially lead to costly fines and necessitate a complete do-over of the project. In the long-term, homeowners who did not secure the appropriate permits may not be given a certificate of occupancy (CO) when putting their homes on the market, which can make it very difficult to sell the home.

• Ancillary costs: The ancillary costs of DIY are not often noted in online tutorials. However, such costs can dramatically increase the amount of money DIYers shell out in order to complete projects on their own. Ancillary costs include but are not limited to the price of tools and equipment; disposal fees for materials that will need to be discarded; and the cost of permits. These costs are often included in estimates provided by contractors, but they're easily overlooked by novice DIYers.

• Repairs: Even experienced contractors make mistakes, so DI-Yers, particularly novices, can anticipate making a few errors along the way. Minor mistakes may not prove too costly, but more significant mishaps can quickly negate any cost savings associated with DIY renovations. The cost to fix DIY mistakes varies depending on the project, but a 2019 survey from Porch. com found that the average DIY mistake cost homeowners \$310 and added five and a half hours to the overall time spent to complete a project. It's worth noting the Porch.com survey was conducted prior to the dramatic increase in materials costs related to inflation in recent years. So it's reasonable to assume that fixing DIY mistakes in 2024 could end up costing considerably more than a few hundred dollars.

Before diving in to DIY, homeowners may want to consider the real costs associated with forgoing professional experience in the potentially misplaced hopes of saving a few dollars.



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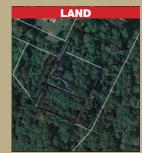
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