Five Steps to Getting Shovel Ready

1. Have detailed & well dimensioned plans
   - Be sure to call attention to critical or specific measurements (plumbing locations, windows, doors, electrical)
   - A dimension must be tied to a fixed point - field person must be able to reference your starting spot.
   - Windows & doors need to be measured from corner to centerline of window/door not to the trim.

2. Get familiar with the houses structure
   - Do you know which way the joists run before putting together your recessed lighting plan?
   - Do you understand the challenges in taking out a tub and replacing it with a shower?
   - Cannot propose vaulted ceiling if you have a truss roof?

3. Have very clear specifications
   - The goal should be to have 95% of all design decisions made prior to construction starting.
   - All TBD decisions are noted and have deadlines on when & by whom they are to be finalized.

4. Furnishings and finish layout should drive rough ins not the other way around
   - Where can I plug in my lamp?

5. Good communication with the contractor
   - Have a clear understanding of what they need from you & when to be successful.
   - Remember, they are a partner not a tool.
   - You cannot wait until it is framed to decide!