Deconstruction FAQ

WHAT IS A DECONSTRUCTION?
Deconstruction is the hand demolition of buildings in the reverse order of their construction, materials removed carefully for reuse and recycling. This technique reduces the disposal of materials into the landfill, and provides materials for the ReStore to sell.

Deconstruction diverts demolition waste from the landfill and reuses these valuable building materials. Developers and construction companies typically look at buildings located on property slated for development as a costly, unavoidable annoyance. Developers and construction companies up until now are offered little choice when it comes to removing these buildings.

Habitat ReStore Deconstruction provides a smart alternative and option for maintaining our resources: Your donations may be tax deductible; better for the environment; proceeds help Habitat build more homes. Daily operations provide meaningful job training for unemployed workers as well as volunteer opportunity for individuals and groups.

WHAT IS THE BENEFIT OF A DECONSTRUCTION?
Items donated to Morris Habitat for Humanity’s ReStore may be deductible for income tax purposes at their current market value.

Additionally, by having MHfH deconstruct items from your home, you are saving money on professional demolition and dumpster costs and diverting waste from landfills.

HOW DO I DETERMINE “FAIR MARKET VALUE”?
To help you in determining the value of donated property, see IRS publication 561 available on the “Donate” page of our website.

HOW DOES THE DECONSTRUCTION PROCESS WORK?
1. The property owner contacts Morris Habitat for Humanity or the Morris Habitat for Humanity ReStore to offer their property for deconstruction.
2. The first consideration of the property is decided over the telephone and /or with emails.
3. Once it is established that there is product or material appropriate for salvage by the ReStore, a time is set for the Deconstruction Supervisor to meet with the property owner, and conduct a walk-through of the site.
4. After it is determined that the project is viable, an agreement is made between the ReStore and property owner with regard to access to the property, access of electricity and bathrooms, materials to be salvaged and a timeline.
5. The Deconstruction Supervisor then schedules tools, trucks and a volunteer crew to begin the deconstruction of the property.

WHAT DOES A MORRIS HABITAT RESTORE TYPICALLY DECONSTRUCT?
Due to the high demand of deconstructions and the limited space that we have in our ReStore, we currently are accepting the following items:

- All kitchen appliances < 10 years old (stove, oven, dishwasher, refrigerator, freezer, hood vents, etc)

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• All kitchen cabinets that are in good condition and < 10 years old. We do not accept the following: composite board, water or mold damaged cabinets.
• The following bathroom items: newer toilets, sinks, vanities, all bathroom accessories
• Hot water heaters < 5 years old
• Lighting fixtures except recessed lighting and ceiling fans
• Copper piping
• Exterior or solid wood doors in excellent condition. We do not except French doors, sliding doors or bi-fold doors
• Door knobs and/or other household accessories (curtain rods, mirrors, shelving, etc)
• Fireplace mantels and grates