

the burbs parents guide

The Burbs Parents Guide: Navigating Suburban Life with Confidence

the burbs parents guide is here to help families thrive in suburban neighborhoods, offering practical tips and insights for parents juggling the joys and challenges of raising children outside the hustle and bustle of the city. Suburban living offers a unique blend of community, safety, and space, but it also comes with its own set of considerations—whether it's schooling options, extracurricular activities, or managing screen time in a quieter environment. This guide aims to walk parents through the essential aspects of suburban family life, helping them make the most of what the 'burbs have to offer.

Understanding Suburban Living for Families

Suburban areas, often characterized by tree-lined streets, spacious yards, and family-friendly neighborhoods, present a distinct lifestyle compared to urban or rural settings. For parents, this means balancing the benefits of a quieter, less congested environment with the need to stay connected to services, schools, and social opportunities.

Why Choose the Suburbs?

Many parents are drawn to the suburbs for the promise of safer streets, better schools, and a stronger sense of community. The suburbs typically offer:

- Lower crime rates compared to urban centers
- More green spaces and parks for children to play
- Access to quality public and private schools
- Family-oriented community events and activities

These factors combine to create an environment where children can grow up with a sense of belonging and ample opportunities for outdoor play and social interaction.

Potential Challenges in the Burbs

Despite these advantages, suburban living isn't without its hurdles. Parents might face challenges such as:

- Longer commutes to work or city attractions
- Limited public transportation options
- Fewer cultural and entertainment venues within walking distance
- A tendency toward car dependency

Recognizing these aspects early can help parents plan accordingly, whether that means organizing carpools, scheduling family outings into the city, or exploring local community centers.

Education and Schooling in the Burbs

One of the biggest draws of the suburbs for parents is the access to quality education. The burbs often host some of the top-rated public schools, as well as private and charter options.

Choosing the Right School

When considering schools, the burbs parents guide suggests taking a comprehensive approach:

- **Visit multiple schools:** Getting a feel for the environment and meeting teachers can be invaluable.
- **Research academic programs:** Look for schools that offer strong STEM, arts, or sports programs depending on your child's interests.
- **Check extracurricular activities:** Access to clubs, sports teams, and enrichment classes can enhance your child's social and personal development.
- **Understand school culture:** Schools with inclusive and supportive communities often foster better learning experiences.

The Role of Parent Involvement

Being actively involved in your child's school life can significantly impact their success. This includes attending parent-teacher meetings, volunteering for school events, and staying informed about curriculum changes. Many suburban schools encourage family engagement through PTOs (Parent-Teacher Organizations) and community events, which can also be great opportunities to meet other parents and build a support network.

Extracurricular Activities and Social Life

Suburban areas usually have a wealth of extracurricular opportunities that can enrich your child's development beyond academics.

Sports and Recreation

From soccer leagues to swimming clubs and dance classes, the burbs generally offer a variety of options appropriate for different ages and skill levels. Participation in sports not only promotes physical health but also teaches teamwork, discipline, and resilience.

Arts and Culture

Many suburban communities host art studios, music schools, and theater groups for children. Encouraging your child to explore creative outlets can boost confidence and provide a healthy balance to their academic workload.

Building Friendships and Community

One aspect that the burbs parents guide highlights is the importance of fostering strong social connections. Neighbors often organize block parties, holiday events, and playdates that help children build friendships and feel a sense of belonging. Parents can facilitate these interactions by hosting gatherings and encouraging participation in local clubs or church groups.

Balancing Technology and Outdoor Play

Living in the suburbs offers children more space to play outside, but the lure of screens remains strong in today's digital age.

Encouraging Outdoor Activities

The sprawling yards and nearby parks typical of suburban neighborhoods are perfect for encouraging physical activity. Regular outdoor play is crucial for children's physical health, creativity, and mental well-being. Parents can support this by:

- Setting aside daily playtime outside
- Organizing neighborhood sports games or nature walks

- Creating backyard obstacle courses or gardening projects

Managing Screen Time

While technology is an inevitable part of modern life, setting healthy boundaries is key. The burbs parents guide recommends:

- Establishing screen-free zones or times, such as during meals or before bedtime
- Encouraging educational and creative apps over passive entertainment
- Co-viewing or participating in digital activities to make screen time interactive and social

Striking this balance helps children develop digital literacy while maintaining their physical and social health.

Safety and Community Resources

One of the perks of suburban living is the strong emphasis on safety and community support.

Neighborhood Watch and Security

Many suburbs have neighborhood watch programs that foster cooperation among residents to keep the area safe. Getting involved in or starting such initiatives can increase awareness and prevent crime.

Access to Healthcare and Emergency Services

Suburban areas often have convenient access to pediatricians, dentists, and hospitals. Knowing the locations and contacts of nearby clinics and urgent care centers is vital for parents. Additionally, teaching children basic safety skills—like how to call emergency services and understanding traffic rules—empowers them and gives parents peace of mind.

Community Centers and Libraries

These local hubs provide more than just books or recreational facilities. They often host parenting workshops, children's story hours, and family fitness classes. Engaging with these resources can

enrich your family's life and connect you with other parents.

Parenting Support and Networking in the Burbs

Raising kids in the suburbs doesn't mean doing it alone. Building a network of support is essential for any parent.

Connecting with Other Parents

Whether through school events, local playgroups, or social media groups dedicated to your neighborhood, meeting other parents can provide emotional support and practical advice. Shared experiences help navigate common challenges like homework struggles, sleep routines, or navigating social dynamics.

Utilizing Local Resources

Many suburban towns offer parenting classes, counseling services, and family wellness programs. Checking your city or county's official website often uncovers hidden gems that can enhance your parenting toolkit.

Living in the suburbs creates a unique environment for family life, where community, safety, and opportunity come together. The burbs parents guide encourages embracing the many advantages of suburban living while staying proactive about the challenges. With thoughtful planning, active engagement, and a spirit of connection, parents can create a nurturing and vibrant environment for their children to grow and flourish.

Frequently Asked Questions

What is the appropriate age rating for the movie 'The Burbs'?

The movie 'The Burbs' is generally rated PG-13, making it suitable for teenagers and older viewers due to some mature themes and mild language.

Are there any scenes in 'The Burbs' that parents should be cautious about?

Yes, 'The Burbs' contains some dark comedy elements, mild violence, and language that parents might want to consider before allowing younger children to watch.

Does 'The Burbs' contain any strong language or profanity?

'The Burbs' includes some mild to moderate language, but it does not contain excessive strong profanity.

Are there any scary or intense scenes in 'The Burbs' that could frighten children?

The film has some suspenseful and creepy moments involving neighborhood mystery and eccentric characters, which might be unsettling for very young or sensitive children.

Is the humor in 'The Burbs' appropriate for all ages?

The humor in 'The Burbs' is largely dark comedy and satire, which may be better appreciated by teens and adults rather than young children.

Does 'The Burbs' address any mature themes that parents should be aware of?

'The Burbs' touches on themes like paranoia, suburban isolation, and suspicion which might require parental guidance to discuss with younger viewers.

Can parents watch 'The Burbs' with their children comfortably?

Parents can watch 'The Burbs' with older children or teenagers, but it is recommended to preview the film first to ensure its content aligns with your family's values.

Is there any sexual content or nudity in 'The Burbs'?

There is no explicit sexual content or nudity in 'The Burbs'; the film focuses more on comedic suspense and mystery.

Additional Resources

The Burbs Parents Guide: Navigating Suburban Life with Confidence

the burbs parents guide serves as an essential resource for families considering or currently residing in suburban neighborhoods. As cities expand and more families seek the balance of community, safety, and quality of life, understanding the dynamics of suburban living becomes crucial. This guide aims to provide an in-depth, professional review of what parents can expect, the benefits and challenges of raising children in the suburbs, and practical advice for making the most of suburban family life.

Understanding Suburban Life: A Parent's Perspective

When parents evaluate living options, the suburbs often represent a middle ground between urban excitement and rural tranquility. Suburban areas typically offer larger homes, more green space, and a perceived safer environment for children. However, the suburban lifestyle comes with its own set of considerations that parents should critically assess.

One of the first factors parents encounter in the suburbs is the quality of local schools. Many suburban districts boast higher standardized test scores and better-funded programs than their urban counterparts, making them attractive for families prioritizing education. According to the National Center for Education Statistics, suburban schools tend to have lower student-to-teacher ratios and higher graduation rates, which can significantly impact children's academic outcomes.

However, not all suburbs are created equal. Variations in school quality, public transportation access, and community amenities can differ widely even within the same metropolitan area. Therefore, the burbs parents guide emphasizes thorough research into specific neighborhoods, including school district ratings, crime statistics, and community resources.

Safety and Community Environment

Safety remains a top priority for parents exploring suburban options. Suburbs generally report lower crime rates compared to urban centers, contributing to the perception of a child-friendly atmosphere. This is often paired with neighborhood watch programs, community events, and family-oriented recreational spaces designed to foster a tight-knit community.

Yet, potential downsides include a lack of diversity in some suburban areas and the risk of social isolation due to longer commutes and less walkable infrastructure. Parents should weigh the benefits of a peaceful environment against the necessity for social engagement and cultural exposure for their children.

Transportation and Accessibility

While suburban neighborhoods offer spacious living, they often come with challenges related to transportation. Many suburbs lack extensive public transit systems, making car dependency a significant consideration for families. Long commutes can affect work-life balance, limit children's after-school activities, and reduce spontaneous social interactions.

For parents, understanding the transportation dynamics is essential. The burbs parents guide recommends evaluating commute times, availability of safe biking or walking paths, and proximity to essential services such as healthcare, grocery stores, and extracurricular facilities.

Educational Opportunities and Extracurricular

Activities in the Suburbs

Education is a cornerstone of suburban appeal. Many suburbs invest heavily in their public schools, offering advanced placement courses, STEM programs, and a variety of extracurricular options. This investment often correlates with higher property taxes but delivers tangible benefits to families prioritizing academic enrichment.

Moreover, suburbs frequently provide diverse extracurricular opportunities ranging from sports leagues to music and art classes. Access to parks, community centers, and libraries supports holistic child development beyond the classroom.

However, parents should be mindful of potential limitations. Suburban schools may not have the same level of cultural diversity or specialized programs found in urban magnet schools. The burbs parents guide encourages families to explore both public and private schooling options and consider supplemental activities that align with their children's interests and needs.

Balancing Social Development and Diversity

Social development is an integral part of childhood, and suburban living presents unique challenges and advantages. On one hand, smaller communities can foster close friendships and a strong sense of belonging. On the other hand, some suburbs may lack ethnic and socioeconomic diversity, which can limit children's exposure to different perspectives.

Incorporating diversity through community engagement, travel, and inclusive activities can help counterbalance these effects. Parents are advised to seek neighborhoods with a mix of cultural backgrounds and actively participate in local events that broaden children's social horizons.

Pros and Cons of Raising Children in the Suburbs

A comprehensive parents guide to the burbs would be incomplete without an honest appraisal of the advantages and disadvantages of suburban family life.

- **Pros:**

- Lower crime rates and safer environments.
- Access to quality schools and educational programs.
- More space for outdoor activities and play.
- Community-oriented neighborhoods with family-friendly amenities.
- Often quieter and less polluted than urban centers.

- **Cons:**

- Increased dependency on cars and longer commutes.
- Potential lack of cultural and socioeconomic diversity.
- Limited public transportation and walkability.
- Fewer entertainment and cultural options compared to cities.
- Higher property taxes in some suburban districts.

Understanding these factors helps parents make informed decisions tailored to their family's priorities and lifestyle.

Financial Considerations for Suburban Families

The cost of living in the suburbs can vary dramatically. While housing costs are generally more affordable than in urban cores, expenses such as property taxes, transportation, and extracurricular activities can add up. The burbs parents guide suggests budgeting carefully and considering long-term financial impacts.

Additionally, the availability of jobs within reasonable commuting distance should factor into decision-making. A longer commute not only increases transportation costs but also reduces time spent with family, which can affect overall quality of life.

Resources and Tools for Suburban Parents

To navigate the complexities of suburban parenting, various resources can provide valuable support:

1. **School Rating Websites:** Platforms like GreatSchools and Niche offer detailed insights into school performance and community feedback.
2. **Local Government Portals:** Access to crime statistics, public services, and community event calendars.
3. **Parenting Forums and Social Media Groups:** Opportunities to connect with other suburban parents for advice and social networking.
4. **Transportation Apps:** Tools that help plan commutes and explore public transit options where available.

Engaging with these tools helps parents optimize their suburban experience and address challenges proactively.

As families continue to seek environments conducive to raising children, the appeal of the suburbs remains strong but nuanced. The burbs parents guide underscores the importance of a balanced approach—recognizing both the benefits and limitations of suburban life. By carefully evaluating factors such as education, safety, transportation, and community culture, parents can create a nurturing environment that supports their children's growth and well-being in the ever-evolving landscape of suburban living.

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the burbs parents guide: The Horror Movie Guide (2022) Steve Hutchison, 2023-03-05
Included in this book are detailed analyses of 2687 horror movies released between 1919 and 2021, listed in chronological order. Each evaluation consists of a picture of one or multiple major antagonists, a release year, a synopsis, and eight ratings: Stars, Story, Creativity, Acting, Quality, Gimmick, Rewatch, and Creeps.

the burbs parents guide: *TV Guide* , 1994

the burbs parents guide: **The Nanny Book** Susan Carlton, Coco Myers, 2025-06-25 Hiring a nanny--and getting along with her afterward--may be one of the most important things that parents do, yet many of us approach the whole business with fear and trembling, or at least a lot of questions. Even parents who may manage dozens of employees at work can be at a loss when it comes to dealing with the person who will be looking after their children. Nanny, au pair, caregiver--no matter the term, the thorny issues remain the same: -How do you find someone you like and trust? -Should you invite the nanny to Thanksgiving dinner? -When should you raise her fee--and by how much? -What should you do when the au pair is a flirt? -How do you sort out the laundry and other chores? -Nanny surveillance--should you spy? The Nanny Book provides real, down-to-earth solutions for almost every conceivable issue or problem. Filled with advice gleaned through interviews with families and nannies, this book will turn parents into their own experts. Other books focus almost exclusively on hiring a caregiver. The Nanny Book is the only guide that gives smart, parent-tested solutions to those sticky situations that can make or break the relationship.

the burbs parents guide: **New York Magazine** , 1989-02-20 New York magazine was born in 1968 after a run as an insert of the New York Herald Tribune and quickly made a place for itself as the trusted resource for readers across the country. With award-winning writing and photography covering everything from politics and food to theater and fashion, the magazine's consistent mission has been to reflect back to its audience the energy and excitement of the city itself, while celebrating New York as both a place and an idea.

the burbs parents guide: **Be Your Own Change Guru: The Ultimate Women's Guide for Thriving at Midlife** Susan Paget, 2014-01-13 When Susan Paget was 47 years old, she realized that even though she was reasonably healthy, had a happy family life and a career as a television producer - something wasn't right. Unable to sleep, having panic attacks and all around feeling lousy, her own doctors weren't able to get to the bottom of what was going on. It took watching a daytime talk show for Susan to work out that she was smack in the middle of perimenopause - the lead up to menopause. Susan soon discovered a strange code of silence around this natural process and took off on a mission to discover what was happening, how to take charge and feel good during this key time of life. Be Your Own Change Guru - The Ultimate Women's Guide For Thriving At

Midlife is a step by step guide for making change, specifically for women over 40. The book addresses common midlife challenges including relationship issues, career transition, body image, finding life purpose and facing empty nest and fertility issues while at the same time, weaving Susan's personal journey throughout.

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the burbs parents guide: *The Complete Idiot's Guide to Parenting a Teenager* Kate Kelly, 1996 Offers advice on understanding and communicating with teenagers; discouraging drug and alcohol use; instilling healthy habits and work ethics; and preparing teens for life after high school

the burbs parents guide: *English the American Way: A Fun Guide to English Language 2nd Edition* Sheila MacKechnie Murtha, Jane Airey O'Connor, 2018-09-24 REA's English the American Way: A Fun ESL Guide to Language & Culture in the U.S. with Audio CD + MP3 New Second Edition! A fun guide to everything American for the English language learner! The warm and witty authors of English the American Way: A Fun ESL Guide to Language & Culture in the U.S. are back with a new second edition of this bestselling title. Featuring updated units on technology and social media, plus all-new fun-filled word-picture matchups, English the American Way is your companion to everyday life in the United States. Engaging, easy-to-follow chapters highlight important topics in American culture, such as: making friends, getting around, dining out, dealing with money, buying a home, what to do in an emergency, visiting the doctor, handling a job interview, and more. Our ESL author experts (Sheila MacKechnie Murtha and Jane Airey O'Connor) give English language learners must-know vocabulary, commonly used phrases, wacky idioms, and sample dialogues that illustrate everyday American life. You'll have fun along the way as you improve your English language and grammar skills with sentence completions, quizzes, and helpful tips. Practice speaking English like an American until you're perfect! Improve your listening and speaking skills with the dialogues included on our audio CD and MP3 download. English the American Way is an excellent resource for ESL students and teachers, English language learners, and professionals of all ages and all nationalities. If you're looking for a fun and easy way to improve your English language skills, this is the book for you! Don't miss the other books in this series... Celebrate the American Way: A Fun ESL Guide to English Language and Culture in the U.S and College the American Way: A Fun ESL Guide to English Language and Campus Life in the U.S.

the burbs parents guide: *Single Mother's Guide to Raising Black Boys* Franklin Donnyd Lewis, 2010-01-04 This book is a very important subject that needs to be dealt with. This subject is often whispered about. I, Franklin Donny D. Lewis, have taken this as a goal to bring it out to the world. I started writing Single Mother's in 2007. I had many roadblocks. But God put this project on me and has seen me through it. This book contains some facts and mostly my opinion on the subject. Since I was a black boy raised by a single mother, I feel I have quite a bit of insight to offer. I am a black man in the trenches every day, and my various jobs expose me to the everyday life of young black boys and young black men. I hope you, the reader, will get something out of this guide that will help you and your son then I have done my job. Keep the faith.

the burbs parents guide: *Not For Tourists Guide to Chicago 2014* Not For Tourists, 2013-10-08 The Not For Tourists Guide to Chicago divides Chi-Town into sixty mapped neighborhoods. Every map is dotted with user-friendly NFT icons that plot the nearest essential services and entertainment locations, while providing important information on things like kid-friendly activities, public transportation, restaurants, bars, and Chicago's art scene. The book also includes: · A foldout highway map · Sections on the North Side, Near North Side, Near West Side, the Greater Loop, the South Side, and Greater Chicago · More than 150 neighborhood and city maps · Details on bookstores and landmarks It's the only key to the Windy City that Rahm Emanuel

can't give you.

the burbs parents guide: A Brutally Honest Guide to Sur-Thriving Generation Now

Gregory P. LaMonaca, 2019-02-26 Gregory P. LaMonaca, founder of LaMonaca Law, a full service Family law firm on the Main Line, in Suburban Philadelphia, created the Brutally Honest system. The system—first introduced in The Brutally Honest Life Management Journal and followed up with The Pennsylvania Divorce, Custody & Financial Survival Guide—confronts the considerable differences between family law matters and other areas of the law. Unlike other standard consultations, Brutally Honest consultations help clients confront their emotions, fears, addictions, and conditions they may have bottled up for some time. The system fosters trust and respect—and the results are transformative. In this latest installment to the Brutally Honest library, LaMonaca sets his sights beyond family law clients to share a vision for how we all can create better versions of ourselves. Drawing on lessons from his own life, he shares how to thrive in a fast paced, complex world, sharing tips on everything from family & friends, health & fitness, finances & investing, business & career, personal growth, emotional intelligence and raising financially literate children. Get a roadmap to success to provide yourself and family with a compelling future with A Brutally Honest Guide to Sur-Thriving Generation Now.

the burbs parents guide: The Scream Queen's Survival Guide Meredith O'Hayre,

2010-08-18 Horror movie fans know: danger lurks around every corner, locker room, and strange new neighbor. And as every slasher addict knows, the last known survivor is always The Scream Queen. In this guide, you'll learn 150 life-or-death lessons that Jamie Lee, Neve, and Jennifer Love learned on screen--without the pain of dismemberment. You owe it to yourself to master the scream queen's rules of survival, including: Be wary of days that begin much like any other (it's all downhill from there) Keep that playlist light (no one ever got axed while cuttin' Footloose) Reconsider that roadtrip (or else end up at the mercy of a creepy tow truck driver) Keep away from small-town law enforcement (the rent-a-cop always dies) Featuring little-known trivia and favorite moments from dozens of the most well-known and scariest movies of all time, this is one survival guide horror fans are sure to die without.

the burbs parents guide: Girls' Guide to Aging with Grit and Gusto Linda Benjamin,

2021-11-11 What's a girl to do if she's dumped by her husband in her 60's? How about writing a book documenting her journey and collecting role-models of inspirational women from their 60's through their 90's? The humorous yet educational memoir of a therapist's journey and the experiences of her inspiring interviewees, women who've been through grief, depression, caregiving, widowhood, retirement, empty-nesting, and physical challenges, Girls' Guide to Aging with Grit and Gusto is a roadmap for women who want to thrive (whatever their age or circumstances) as they grow older.

the burbs parents guide: The Rough Guide to New York City Restaurants Daniel Young, 2003

New York's 18,000 restaurants guarantee an almost infinite diversity and choice. They also make settling on a place to eat an extremely challenging prospect. This guide aims to make that process a little simpler. There are 350 reviews covering all budgets and boroughs, from Brooklyn's Indian eateries to the finest French restaurants on the Upper East Side. The only criterion for entry into the book is a thorough recommendation.

the burbs parents guide: The Complete Idiot's Guide to Surviving Divorce Pamela

Weintraub, Terry Hillman, Elayne Kesselman, 1999 Offers advice on settlement agreements, custody arrangements, mediation, lawyers and legal fees, child and spousal support, visitation, and blended families

the burbs parents guide: The Gin Lover's Guide to Dating Nina Kaye, 2019-11-04 'A fun

cocktail of love, life and laughs' Mandy Baggot, bestselling author of 'One Christmas Star' and 'One Last Greek Summer' When life gives you lemons... add a splash of gin! A deliciously feel-good romantic comedy for fans of Sophie Randal When Liv's high-flying career goes off the rails, she finds herself working at a glitzy new gin bar to pay the bills. She's never let romance distract her, but with one very hot colleague, a mysterious online follower who might just be her soulmate, and a lot of

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the burbs parents guide: Barrios to Burbs Jody Vallejo, 2012-08-15 Too frequently, the media and politicians cast Mexican immigrants as a threat to American society. Given America's increasing ethnic diversity and the large size of the Mexican-origin population, an investigation of how Mexican immigrants and their descendants achieve upward mobility and enter the middle class is long overdue. *Barrios to Burbs* offers a new understanding of the Mexican American experience. Vallejo explores the challenges that accompany rapid social mobility and examines a new indicator of incorporation, a familial obligation to give back in social and financial support. She investigates the salience of middle-class Mexican Americans' ethnic identification and details how relationships with poorer coethnics and affluent whites evolve as immigrants and their descendants move into traditionally white middle-class occupations. Disputing the argument that Mexican communities lack high quality resources and social capital that can help Mexican Americans incorporate into the middle class, Vallejo also examines civic participation in ethnic professional associations embedded in ethnic communities.

the burbs parents guide: Adolescent Realities Judith A. Hayn, Holly Sheppard Riesco, 2021-11-10 *Adolescent Realities: Engaging Students in SEL through Young Adult Literature* offers a connection between young adult literatures and social and emotional learning. Students have many SEL needs, and this book focuses on exploring SEL through the experiences of characters in contemporary books published in the last few years. Each chapter offers a specific focus in SEL, a middle school and high school book for teens to read, and a guided plan that can be adapted to fit the needs of educators, counselors, and parents. A great tool for guiding teen book clubs or workshops, *Adolescent Realities* has the potential to make teens aware of how to apply SEL in their own lives.

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the burbs parents guide: Baby Bomb Kara Hoppe, Stan Tatkin, 2021-07-01 A new baby can turn your life—and your romantic relationship—upside down. *Baby Bomb* is the resource parents need to integrate life with baby so they can co-parent and co-partner as a solid and supportive team, while also cultivating mad love for each other. The book gives moms and dads more than just “tips” for better parenting and partnering; it gives them a science-based understanding of why a secure-functioning relationship is essential for successful parenting.

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Deck + Bilco Door Access (floor, foundation, washer, furnace) In my dream renovation (part II), I'd like to install a deck attached to the house, but there is a set of Bilco doors in the way. I'd like to keep the

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