



CHOOSING THE RIGHT CONTRACTOR

One of the most important decisions during a home construction project is choosing the right contractor for the job. Whether building or remodeling, keep these tips in mind from start to finish.

- ✓ Ask for References of similar work the contractor has completed. Contact references and ask:
How would they rate the overall compatibility of the contractor?
Did they have a good rapport with the contractor?
Did the contractor listen to suggestions or wishes from the reference?
May I visit the project the contractor completed to inspect their work?
- ✓ Make sure to ask the contractor about the use of their sub-contractors and their reputation.
- ✓ Check credit references for the contractor. Do they pay their bills where they buy their materials and supplies?
- ✓ Ask to see what coverage the contractor carries. Are they insured against personal liability and property damage? What about claims covering worker's compensation?
- ✓ Get at least three estimates in writing. Be sure to compare all of the details and make sure each contractor is quoting the same project thoroughly.
- ✓ Don't expect your estimate overnight. Allowing the contractor to go through the entire process will help avoid any unpleasant surprises later.
- ✓ All agreements should be in writing. If you have any questions or don't understand something, ask before signing a contract.
- ✓ Don't have unreasonable schedules in mind. Allow for weather, shipping delays and other unseen circumstances that might delay your project.

Why you should choose a Home Builders Association Member:

Why should you choose a builder or remodeler that is a Home Builders Association (HBA) member? Consider this: HBA members continue to take steps to improve their expertise and professionalism. As an HBA member, he or she has the opportunity to attend training seminars, is advised regularly on new products and techniques, continues with education classes to keep his or her certifications current and is advised of any changes to local building codes. Strong business ethics, complying to industry standards and dedication to professionalism are a few of the many reasons why contractors join the Home Builders Association.



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