

# HOW TO CHOOSE A CONTRACTOR



Whether you recently purchased a fixer-upper or just want to update or change your home, formulate a plan and proceed with caution. From a bathroom remodel to a kitchen upgrade or addition, the trick is to find the right person for the job.

## 1. GET RECOMMENDATIONS

Seek out referrals from friends, neighbors and family members for those who do the type of project you have in mind. A local homebuilder or architect may also be willing to suggest someone.

## 2. REFERENCES

Once a few hopeful candidates are identified, obtain several references. Be sure to confirm them with a phone call or e-mail. Also, verify if the firm is affiliated with any national or local organizations.

## 3. INTERVIEW CONTRACTORS

Determine if the firm is able to handle the size of your project. Be aware that some remodeling firms only do construction while others offer design and build services. If you'll be dealing with a contractor, obtain a list of who does the subcontract work for plumbing, wiring, masonry, etc.

## 4. VIEW THEIR WORK

If possible check out some of the individual's work in person. Ask important questions such as: Was the work finished at or near the budgeted price? Was the work done in a timely manner and on schedule? Would they use him or her again?

## 5. BACKGROUND CHECK

Check if the individuals are licensed in your state, insured, and whether or not there is any pending legal action against them. Find out how many years they have been in business. Discuss the building inspection and permit processes that will be required for your prospective project.

## 6. MEET AND GET BIDS

Meet the contractors in person and obtain several bids. Avoid the temptation to sign on the lowest bidder. Considerably low bids can be a red flag that the firm is desperate for work or just out of step with what the job will realistically entail in terms of materials and labor.

## 7. CHOOSE AND SIGN

Sign a contract that details all parts of the project including costs and projected date of completion.

**CONTACT ME TODAY  
TO LEARN MORE!**

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