

Tips to Hiring a Contractor

Whether it's a plumbing, electrical or a carpentry repair

a referral from a friend or family is the best place to start.

Quick Checklist	
✓	References
✓	Contractor Insurance
✓	Written Estimate

- If performing a **large scale project** – **ask for references** of past customers. Call and ask about their experience and service provided.
- **Get multiple estimates IN WRITING** on work to be done. Don't be afraid to ask questions about what they think is wrong and how they are going to fix it.
- Make sure the **contractor is insured and/or has a valid license.**
- Your repairman should be pleasant and flexible as to work with your schedule.
- Make sure **you know exactly what they are going to do** – start date, how long the project will take, and how much it will cost.
- **Don't forget to get the proper permits for the job.**
*Note: Depending on your area, you may need a home inspection to be done by the "City Zoning Department" before the job can begin. (An inspection at the end of the project will be necessary as well.)
- Be sure to **ask about the terms of payment.** DO NOT PAY ALL UP-FRONT! Make arrangements to pay a certain amount at each stage of the project.
- **At the end of the project** – inspect their work BEFORE MAKING FINAL PAYMENT. Make sure they put everything back just as they found it.

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