



Choosing a Builder or Remodeler

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When the decision has finally come to start building that new home or to start that remodeling project, there are a few things to consider before hiring a contractor to do the work.

Before you decide which contractor to hire you need to go through a bidding process. You need to have a clearly defined scope of work and you should get at least 3 estimates for the work being done.

When the estimates are completed you need go through them to make sure everyone is on the same page. The estimates should be itemized for the various portions of work, any allowances should be made clear with what was included, and the major materials should be specified.

Before you make your final decision, ask the contractor for some references. Try and get references for similar projects that you are having done. Call the references and ask what they liked and what they didn't like about working with the contractor.

When you decide on a contractor and before you sign a contract you should do a few more things.

First and foremost, make sure the contractor is licensed in the state where the project will take place. This ensures that the contractor is not only operating legally, but that he is also bonded and insured.

Secondly, make sure that the contractor provides some sort of timeline for start and completion of the work.

Lastly, read the contract you are signing. You are investing your money in your home and you need to know what obligations you have and what obligations the contractor has throughout the project.

If you are thorough and diligent during the hiring process, you will be on your way to a successful project that you will be able to enjoy for years to come.



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