

Checklist for Hiring a Builder or Remodeler

Do your homework before having work done on your home.

Use this checklist to help you select a builder or remodeler to work on or build your home.

- Is the builder/remodeler properly licensed to do the work you require and does he or she have sufficient workers compensation and general liability insurance? If not, you may be liable for any construction-related accidents on your premises.
- How long have they been in the building business? It usually takes three to five years to establish a financially sound business. Will they be around after the construction is complete to service any warranties?
- Will the builder/remodeler provide you with names of previous customers? Contact previous customers. Ask them if they would hire the builder/remodeler again.
- Have you seen the builder/remodelers work, both completed and in progress? Check for quality of workmanship and materials.
- Does the builder or remodeler have a permanent business location and a good reputation with local banks and suppliers?
- Have you called your local Better Business Bureau? They can alert you to any complaints.
- Are you able to communicate with the builder/remodeler? Remember you will be in close contact with them throughout the construction process and afterward as you live in your new home.
- Will the builder/remodeler provide you with a complete and clearly written contract? The contract will benefit both of you. Review it carefully.
- Be cautious of unusually low-priced bids. If the builder/remodeler is unable to pay for the materials and labor as the project proceeds, this may indicate a potential problem.

To check for a Louisiana State Contractors License go to www.lslbc.louisiana.gov.

For more information contact the Home Builders Association of Northeast Louisiana at 318-387-6795 or go to www.hbanela.com.



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