

## **Guide To Hiring A Great Roofing Contractor**

Your home's roof has an average lifespan of about fifteen years. If your roof is less than fifteen years old and you are experiencing roofing problems, you likely are looking to have your roof repaired rather than replaced. If your roof is older than fifteen years, it may be necessary to get a new roof installed. Whether you are in need of roofing repairs, a re-roof, or a new roof installation, it is prudent to hire a professional roofing contractor. A <u>roofing contractor</u> will be able to assess your roof's condition, recommend the proper repair or replacement, and use the proper roofing materials and ensure a professional installation.

Before hiring a roofing contractor, it is recommended to get referrals and recommendations from friends and family. Even if you do not have any referrals, you should definitely get several roofing quotes before hiring a contractor. A roofing quote should be complete and highly detailed, containing specifics about the work to be done, the cost of materials and labor, and a timeline for the scope of the work. An additional thing to check on is that the cleanup is included

in the quote. Otherwise this could be an additional cost or something you will need to take care of on your own.

It is important to hire a professional and to check up on the credential of the roofing contractor. Ask them how long they've been in business. Check the contractor's board for any complaints or lawsuits on file. Make sure they have a physical address. Many roofers, like other contractors, are "fly by night" businesses working in essence out of their





trucks. There are even reports of scams from such types working for bogus business identities with no business license or physical place of business. These shady types work out of their trucks and take money from unknowing home owners. Roofing contractors should also be properly licensed, insured and bonded. This protects you, the homeowner, from any damage to your home during their work.

Whether you decide on roofing repairs, a re-roof, or a completely new roof installation, building permits will be required by your city. Make sure the roofing company you decide to hire is familiar with the permits required as well as with the local building codes. Inspections are also likely required per building code, likely before, during and after construction completion. Make sure the roofer is complying with all regulations. This is important because if the roofer is not compliant you may be liable for damages or necessary repairs to bring the work to code.

Once you've decided on a roofer, be sure to get a contract for the work to be done. This should again consist of details of all the work to be done, materials cost, estimated labor, and the time frame for the work to be completed. If there are any warranties offered, they should be supported in writing in the contract, including any details to the warranty. Read over the warranty carefully to make sure you understand the terms of the warranty. Don't be afraid to ask the contractor to explain anything you don't understand, and to specify anything that you don't see in writing. If you don't feel the warranty is adequate express your opinion and ask for additional amends to the warranty. Also make sure clean up is included in the contract so that you are not stuck with the additional cost of cleaning up. Some people may choose to save some money by handling the clean up themselves - that's up to you to decide on the cost savings versus labor.

Above all, don't rush to hire a roofing contractor without taking the proper time to consider the details and available options. Be sure to take the necessary time to research and evaluate any roofer you are considering hiring. Don't be rushed - your decision can wait until you've completed your contractor research. Both <u>roofing repairs</u> and a new roof are major investments. Taking extra time to complete adequate research will be money and aggravation saved in the long run.



Bottom line is when looking for the best roofing contractor, look for one who offers verifiable experience, proper licensing and insurance, that offers reasonable solutions to your roofing problems at a good price. Also make sure that you feel comfortable working with the roofer. Your new roof or roofing repairs should keep you happy for years to come.



We specialize in all aspects of roofing & are dedicated to giving your fast, friendly and reliable service.

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