



Go with Grace
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23 Items To Consider When Selecting A Contractor Or Home Remodeler

- 1. Shop around...don't rush into choosing a contractor
- 2. Get references from friends, neighbors & family who may have had similar work completed
- 3. Get at least three written estimates for the identical work so that you can compare bids
- 4. Get references from the contractors so you can check on their work
- 5. Call your local municipality and check if there have been any complaints against any of the companies you might consider for your remodeling
- 6. After you have made a choice of contractor, don't let work begin without a signed contract. Be sure to seriously consider having an attorney review prior to signing
- 7. Be wary of signing a "letter or agreement" or even a contractor bid form—this might be a binding contract
- 8. Be sure to specify what is to be done and when work is to be completed

Make sure the contract contains:

- 9. Who will do the work
- 10. When the work is to be completed
- 11. A detailed list of specific materials to be used
- 12. The appliances &/or fixtures to be supplied
- 13. The dates for beginning and completing the job
- 14. Monetary penalties for non-completion of project on time
- 15. A provision for the clean up of the premises
- 16. Don't sign a contract that reads "work as per agreement"
- 17. Specify that contractor will obtain all necessary licenses and permits
- 18. Specify contractor will meet all zoning regulations & building codes
- 19. Be sure contractor will indemnify you in case of not meeting all regulations
- 20. Be sure that the contract states the contractor is responsible for any damages to your property
- 21. If contractor guarantees the work, be sure it specifically states what is guaranteed and for how long
- 22. Contract should state when payment is due. Never pay full price in advance; link payments to certain stages of completion of the entire job
- 23. Final payment and the signing of any completion certificate should only take place when the work is completed to your satisfaction

