



National Association of Home Builders

# 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.

- ***Does the builder or remodeler have a permanent business location and a good reputation with local banks and suppliers?***
- ***How long have they been in the building business?***  
It usually takes 3 to 5 years to establish a financially sound business.  
Will they be around after the construction is complete to service any warranties?
- ***Have you called your local Better Business Bureau?*** They can alert you to any complaints.
- ***Does the builder/remodeler have sufficient workers compensation & general liability insurance?***  
If not, you may be liable for any construction-related accidents on your premises.
- ***Will the builder/remodeler provide you with names of previous customers?***  
Ask them if they would hire the builder/remodeler again.
- ***Have you seen the builder/remodeler's work, both completed and in progress?***  
Check for quality of workmanship and materials.
- ***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.

For names of local member builders and remodelers, go to [www.tristatehba.com](http://www.tristatehba.com) or for a wider area go to [www.hbawv.org](http://www.hbawv.org).

For more information about building and housing topics such as Weatherization, Green Building, Chinese Drywall, Buying A Home, Choosing A Contractor, Building vs. Remodeling, Lead Paint go to [www.nahb.org](http://www.nahb.org).  
For information on tax credits go to [www.FederalHousingTaxCredit.com](http://www.FederalHousingTaxCredit.com)



Tri-State Home Builders Association • PO Box 376 • Barboursville, WV 25504  
304-523-2471 or 304-736-0561 • Fax: 304-736-4006 • [www.tristatehba.com](http://www.tristatehba.com)