



Finding the Right Professional Home Remodeler

Remodeling your home can add safety, comfort, convenience and space to what can be the most valuable asset you own. It's important to find the right remodeler for the job.

Where to Look

- Search the NAHB Remodelers directory at nahb.org/remodelerdirectory
- Get a list of members from your local home builders' association nahb.org/findanhba
- Look on home improvement websites such as Houzz houzz.com/OrganizationMembers/nahb
- Ask friends or neighbors for referrals



Why Hire an NAHB Remodeler?

Membership in NAHB Remodelers indicates a remodeler's commitment to professional quality construction, responsible business management and reliable customer service. Members have:

- Pledged to a Code of Ethics that includes compliance with rules and regulations, fair pricing, quality workmanship and prompt timelines.
- Access to resources on the latest regulations, codes, new products and construction techniques.
- A network of local and national suppliers, subcontractors and industry experts.
- Often earned professional designations to gain advanced training and specialized knowledge, such as Certified Graduate Remodeler (CGR), Graduate Master Remodeler (GMR) and Certified Aging-in-Place Specialist (CAPS).



Vetting Your Professional Home Remodeler



10 Questions to Ask a Prospective Remodeler Before Signing a Contract

- 1 Do you have experience with similar projects and homes in this area?
- 2 Do you have Worker's Comp and Liability insurance and the appropriate state license(s)?
- 3 Do you belong to any trade associations or hold any professional designations?
- 4 Will you provide the estimate, contract, schedule and change orders in writing?
- 5 Can you provide customer and professional references?
- 6 Who will supervise the project every day?
- 7 Will the workers be your employees or subcontractors?
- 8 How will you protect my home and safety during the work?
- 9 How will you communicate project status updates?
- 10 What type of warranty do you offer?

When you're ready to hire your remodeler, get a detailed written contract that protects both parties, outlines the scope of work, provides a fair payment schedule, and complies with local, state and federal laws.



Warning Signs of a "Scam" Contractor

- Lack of insurance and any state-required license.
- Asks you to sign something before you've decided to hire them.
- Doesn't provide a written contract.
- Requires cash or payment in full before starting work. (A deposit is common after a signed contract)
- Vastly underbids all other contractors.
- Offers "today only/special" pricing.
- Can't provide customer references.
- Doesn't have an office mailing address, phone number, or email.
- Requires that you obtain the building/remodeling permits yourself.

For more tips and ideas for remodeling your home, go to nahb.org/remodel.