

Need a contractor?

How to find the right person for the job!

- **Research contractors** that may be able to help with your project
 - Ask friends and family for referrals to contractors they have worked with before
 - Search the internet for the type of contractor you're looking for in your geographic area
 - Visit the Better Business Bureau (BBB) website to look for contractors
- **Read reviews** about contractors on social media and on rating websites like Yelp, Google and Home Advisor. Check for complaints with your local consumer affairs office and the BBB.
 - Better Business Bureau website: www.bbb.org/nashville/
 - Nashville Consumer Affairs Office: (615) 741 - 4737
- Ask contractors for **copies of their license(s) and insurance certificate** to ensure they are state licensed and insured. At the very least, contractors **MUST** have general liability insurance.
- Take **multiple bids** for every repair job. **ALWAYS** meet with each contractor at your house, and make sure they know what they are bidding on. If a contractor won't take the time to meet with you in person and understand what work needs to be done, they probably won't spend the time required to ensure that the work is done right.
- Find out if the contractor can and will **pull all necessary permits** for the work you need.
- **Select the best bid!** Analyze all factors when making a decision; the lowest bid is not always the best bid. You might also want to consider if your contractor is a good communicator, if they seem honest, if they will do the work themselves or if they will have employees, etc.
- **Get a contract in writing** that covers the scope of work, a start and completion date, the total cost, a payment plan and method and warranty information.
- **Keep receipts for all payments.** A **PARTIAL** down payment may be required before home repairs are started to allow the contractor to pay for materials. While this is common practice, it can also be a scam technique! Final or full payments should **NEVER** be made until all work is complete.