



TIPS ON HIRING A CONTRACTOR

There are a number of website to provide help and guidance on hiring a contractor.

Canadian House Builders Associate

Renovating your home – CHBA provides the step by step guide to planning and understanding the contracting process to find the right contractor and getting the results you want.

<https://www.chba.ca/CHBA/Renovating/CHBA/Renovating/Renovating.aspx?hkey=261a8aba-7e8e-4b32-b290-6df43bfb9eb7>

Consumer Protection BC

How can I tell if a contractor is legit?

<https://www.consumerprotectionbc.ca/2014/09/consumer-question-how-can-i-tell-if-a-contractor-is-legit/>

How to tell if your reno contract is legal in BC (video) -

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=sCnCSmh4fxc>

BC Contractor License Requirements – check which trades require licensing and permits.

<https://trustedpros.ca/license-requirements/bc>

FortisBC – especially certified gas fitters and/or electricians

<https://www.fortisbc.com/build-renoate/find-a-contractor/tips-for-hiring-a-contractor>

Canadian Mortgage and Housing Corporation

<https://www.cmhc-schl.gc.ca/en/developing-and-renovating/accessible-adaptable-housing/aging-in-place/hiring-a-contractor>

WHAT TO LOOK FOR IN A CONTRACTOR

Look for a contractor that:

- is licensed with Technical Safety BC and employs certified gas fitters and/or electricians
- is bonded and insured for liability and property damage
- offers warranties covering equipment, materials and labour



- offers maintenance and service after installation and after warranties have expired
- provides customer references
- is in good standing with the Better Business Bureau

WHAT A CONTRACTOR'S QUOTE SHOULD INCLUDE

We recommend getting three or more quotes before deciding on which contractor to use. A good contractor will provide you with a written quote that includes a clear outline of the costs and work involved. Remember, the contractor offering the lowest price may not necessarily be the best.

The contractor's written quote should include:

- information about the equipment and materials your contractor will supply and install or service
- what labour they'll provide
- the cost of permits and payment of related fees (gas appliance and electrical installation work requires a permit from Technical Safety BC or applicable municipality)
- the cost of subcontractors and tradespersons (if they're required)
- all related taxes and any grants or credits applied to the total cost
- an estimated project completion date
- warranty and service information

It may be helpful if the quote also includes:

- an estimate of the future work required to upgrade piping size and connections for the installation of additional gas appliances and equipment
- a rough diagram showing the layout of ductwork and placement of piping