



Michael Draper
Your home, your way.

HIRING A HANDYPERSON IN ALBERTA



Hiring a reliable handyman can save time and stress for both small repairs and larger household projects. I have compiled this guide for you to help outline some essential considerations when searching for a trustworthy and skilled professional.

Whether you choose to work with me, another realtor, or stay right where you are, there are definitely some best practices to consider when hiring a handyman or professional tradesperson.

I am always happy to make a more personalized referral for my clients, once we've had an opportunity to meet and discuss your needs in more detail.



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BEST PRACTICES FOR HIRING A CONTRACTOR

- **List the Tasks & Prioritize:** Write down everything you need to be done and prioritize what needs to be done first. This will help you keep first things first, as well as communicate clearly with your potential contractors, ask questions specific to each task and ensure they are qualified for the work.
- **Ask for Referrals:** Speak with friends, family, and/ or neighbors who have hired contractors they trust.
- **Check Online Reviews:** Platforms like Google, Yelp, and HomeStars often feature reviews and ratings for local professionals.
- **Experience and Expertise:** Ask how long they have been in business and if they have experience with similar projects.
- **Licenses and Insurance:** Verify that they hold the necessary licenses and carry liability insurance to protect against accidents or damages.
- **References:** Request contact information for previous clients and follow up to ensure their work meets expectations.
- **Request Detailed Quotes:** Obtain at least three written quotes outlining labor costs, material costs, and timelines.
- **Compare Pricing:** Be cautious of quotes that are significantly lower than others; this could be a red flag for poor quality or hidden fees.
- **Be Wary of Upfront Payments:** Avoid paying large sums upfront. Reputable companies typically request a deposit but not the full amount before starting.
- **Research Their Reputation:** Check for complaints with the Better Business Bureau or other consumer protection agencies.
- **Trust Your Instincts:** If something feels off, it's better to walk away.
- **Detailed Contract:** Ensure you sign a written agreement detailing the scope of work, timelines, costs, and payment terms. This protects both parties and helps avoid misunderstandings.
- **Receipts and Documentation:** Keep copies of all contracts, receipts, and communications.
- **Inspect the Work:** Before making the final payment, inspect the completed work to ensure it meets your standards and matches what was agreed upon.
- **Leave a Review:** Help others in your community by leaving an honest review online about your experience.

ADDITIONAL RESOURCES:

- CHBA Get it in writing toolkit - <https://www.chba.ca/get-it-in-writing-toolkit/>

