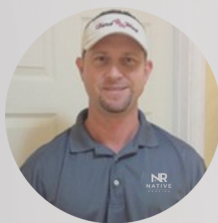


Nailed It!

**SECRETS TO HIRING
THE BEST ROOFING
CONTRACTOR**



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NR NATIVE

R O O F I N G

In the market for a new roof? Selecting the right roofing contractor is the most important step. Once you have a few roofing companies in mind, research them extensively! Vet the quality of their work with online research and recommendations from family, friends, trusted sources, and more. Feel confident you're making the right choice by referencing the following checklist as you make your decision.

ASK FOR RECOMMENDATIONS

Whether you start with your family, friends, neighbors, or online research, obtaining recommendations for your roofing contractor is essential. It doesn't get much better than a word-of-mouth review, but online searches reveal more about the company such as any certifications they hold, awards won, and so forth. Jot down the roofing contractors local to you that stand out.

RESEARCH FOR YOURSELF

Once you've got three to four roofing contractors to consider, it's time to research their businesses in detail. Start by visiting each website to discover the owner's background and experience, the type of roofing services they offer, projects they've completed, and so on. Their websites should be updated and professional in appearance. Go to their "Portfolio" or "Testimonial/Reviews" page to skim a compilation of their work. Check your local Better Business Bureau or your state's Consumer Protection Agency to inquire about their professional reputation or if there's a history of disputes with clients or subcontractors.

LOOK FOR THE NUMBER OF YEARS IN BUSINESS

A roofing contractor with more than five years of experience is preferable. Typically, this benchmark tends to prove the company can be trusted to deliver quality products and great customer service. This is not to say a newly established roofing company can't deliver the same, but you certainly want to research the experience level of the persons who'll be responsible for your new roof. Perhaps the company is new, but they've had years of experience working for someone else – that should be contemplated as well.

ONLY WORK WITH LICENSED AND INSURED ROOFING CONTRACTORS



Never put your roof in the hands of a roofing contractor who is not licensed and insured. Ask and verify - ask the roofing contractor directly if they're licensed and to furnish a copy of the license for you to verify. Check that they are in good standing with their insurance company by calling and verifying that as well.



CONDUCT PHONE INTERVIEWS

Once you narrow down your list, schedule a quick call with each roofing contractor to discuss your roofing needs, wants, and any questions you may have on the process, materials, timeline, property damage coverage, etc. The answers to these questions will reveal the company's availability, reliability, how much attention they'll be able to give your roofing project, and how smooth the process will be. Next, you'll schedule a time for the roofing contractor to inspect your roof to then provide you with a written estimate.

MEET FACE TO FACE

Be at your home or business when the roofing contractor is scheduled to inspect your roof's status. Recap your phone conversation and go over any findings after the roof is inspected to determine if any immediate repairs are necessary before installation of the new roof can begin. An experienced roofing contractor will be able to field your questions with ease and should be asking you questions about the roof's history, any issues you've experienced, and what roofing material you're interested in so they can accurately quote your project.



COMPARE THE ESTIMATES

To effectively compare roofing contractors, get written estimates with a fixed price from three or four roofing contractors. Look closely at the cost breakdown of roofing materials, work methods, timelines, etc. Pricing will vary but should be comparable. Will they protect your roof during the project? What warranties do they offer? These are a few more items to weigh as you compare roofing companies in your area. The purchase of a new roof is a big decision, so thoroughly investigate each option before making your decision.

MAKE THE DECISION

Once you've determined which reputable roofing contractor to hire, arrange a final meeting to go over details before the project begins. Reconfirm your initial quote, agree upon a payment plan, and keep a record of the following:

- ✓ Your contract
- ✓ Project plans
- ✓ Order changes
- ✓ Bills and invoices
- ✓ Proof of insurance and/or permit
- ✓ Contractor correspondence



CONSIDER THE ROOFING WARRANTIES AND SAVE THE INFORMATION

Typically, a standard roof warranty will include two types of warranties—first, a material warranty, and then a workmanship warranty. One generally comes from the manufacturer, and the other from the roofing contractor to cover their installation. Since roofs are sizeable investments, many homeowners and business owners opt for warranties to know they're covered in the event of a leak or the deterioration of roofing materials. Find out what's covered and what's not to make the final call. Some people value the peace of mind it affords, while others would rather set aside money periodically to go towards any future repairs. If you go the warranty route, keep records in a safe and convenient place.

BE AWARE OF WARNING SIGNS

Unfortunately, there is a small percentage of roofing contractors who are not honest professionals. Oftentimes, they are not local to you but instead go door-to-door frequenting areas impacted by storm damage. They scam homeowners and business owners with an offer of a covered deductible or with a pre-payment only to disappear after receiving payment before any work begins. Avoid contractors who request a large cash deposit in advance - it's typical for roofing companies to request almost equal payment installments before, during, and just before completion of the roofing project. Be wary of any roofing company that offers significantly lower pricing than the competition – you get what you pay for, and additional costs to you are sure to surface later on.

We hope you reference this guide when you're shopping a roofing contractor in your area. Local to Broward and Palm Beach counties, or the surrounding areas?

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