

How to Hire the Right Contractors to Remodel your Shower

There's nothing like a brand new shower to spruce up the look of any bathroom. Next to the kitchen, the bathroom is an important room in the home. It's where you unwind and relax and/or get ready for your day.

If you're thinking about remodeling your shower to make it more modern, roomier, or it's just time, consider the following tips to hire the right contractors to remodel your shower.



- **Know what you want.** Before you hire a contractor, get an idea of what you want. You can only hire the right guy for the job when you know what the job entails.
- **Ask to see the contractor's previous work.** Bonus points if you can talk to a previous client or two. This way you can hear from them what it was like working with the contractor rather than just looking at pictures.
- **Get all estimates in writing.** Don't accept a quote verbally. There's nothing binding about a verbal quote. When you have the estimates in writing, you know exactly what's included in the quote and can use it when budgeting for the job.
- **Know the exact schedule.** Not only should a contractor tell you when they can start the job, but how long will it take? This should be a part of your written estimate. Add a buffer on any period they quote, but you'll

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have an idea of what to expect barring any emergencies.

- **Ask to see a license and insurance.** Don't let just anyone work on your shower. Make sure the contractor is properly licensed and insured. What would happen if he got hurt in your home or did damage to another area of the bathroom while working on the shower? Proper insurance covers issues like these.
- **Ask for referrals from people you know.** If neighbors, friends, or family recently had their bathroom remodeled, ask what they thought of the contractor and if they'd recommend him. When you get referrals from someone you know, you can ask more pointed questions and get straight answers.
- **Read the fine print on the contract.** Make sure you know all the terms of the work involved. Look for any extra potential charges or other legalities in the fine print that could cost you more money or have unpleasant effects on the outcome.
- **Don't pay a contractor everything upfront.** If a contractor asks for full payment upfront, it's a sign of a scam. A deposit for materials and to start the job is acceptable, but the remaining funds should be due upon completion of the job.
- **Read reviews.** If you find contractors online, make sure you read the reviews. People are usually willing to share the good and bad aspects of using someone, so read both sides of the reviews to form your own opinion.
- **Don't rush into it.** Make sure you know exactly what you want and that the contractor will meet your needs. If you rush into it, you may not be pleased with the job. Take your time and find the right contractor.

Finding a contractor to remodel your shower isn't hard, it just requires a little due diligence. Your hard work will pay off with a successful shower remodel that you can enjoy for many years to come.

