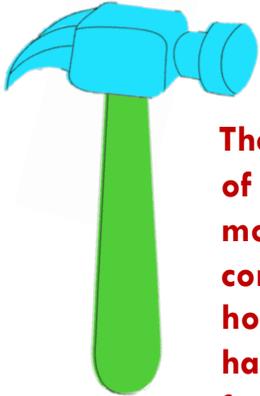


Choose Your Dude: Trustworthy Contractor Selection

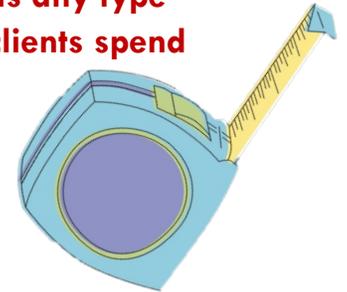
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From the seminar **The Reveal**

By Leslie Hart-Davidson, Allied Educator ASID, Member + Presenter NKBA



There is a direct correlation between the kind of “dude” (and I mean that collectively as any type of contractor) you hire and the kind of remodel experience you have. I’ve witnessed clients spend more time selecting the perfect \$5 watermelon at a farmer’s market than selecting the contractor who will take a crap-ton of your money and have full access to your home and family. To make it easier for you, I’ve broken down the process into a handy guide for interviewing and vetting your dude once you get a list of suggestions from your friends, family, colleagues and neighbors.



① Did dude *call you back*?

If the dude is hard to reach as you’re actively trying to give him your money, how well do you think he’ll respond during the project when he already *has* your money?

② Did you get a *good feeling* or the *creeps*?

If for any reason you are uncomfortable with the dude, say thanks but no thanks. Trusting your gut is a total **THING**.

③ Did dude *actively listen*?

If you’re being talked *at* rather than listened *to* during the initial meeting with the dude, it’s time to move on down the line of referrals.



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4 Is your dude *licensed and legit*?

Each state has a licensing agency that is searchable online for the current status of your dude to ensure proper education and adherence to local building codes. You'll also want to request a copy of the dude's current insurance policy to keep all parties safe during the project.



5 Who's the boss?

Tony Danza certainly won't be running your job, so find out who will be. Often the slick, logo-sportin' dude who showed up for the meeting is *not* the one who will be on site daily doing the work. Find out who will be in your home regularly during the project, including subcontractors.

6 Are the subcontractors dependable & reliable?

A general contractor will likely not possess all trade skills, so "subbing out" the job for framing, plumbing, electrical and mechanical is customary. Ask about which subs will be on the job and how long they've been working with the dude's company.

7 Winner winner chicken dinner!

You've made it through the flow chart of "dude-choosing" and are ready to partner up with your successfully-vetted dude to tackle your remodel project!

