

TOP 5 CONSUMER TIPS FOR HIRING A CONTRACTOR

As Texans begin to assess the damage from the February winter storms, these tips can help with finding and hiring a contractor.



ASK FOR MULTIPLE BIDS

Compare prices for multiple different contractors.



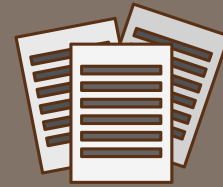
SEARCH LOCAL

Make sure the contractor has an established connection to Texas. Watch out for contractors who go door-to-door after storms.



CHECK REFERENCES

Ask for a list of references and call each reference. Check multiple review sites, such as Yelp, Google Reviews, Angie's List, and the Better Business Bureau.



OBTAIN PROOF OF INSURANCE AND BONDS

Ask for copies of contractor's liability insurance, and ensure the contractor is bonded. Bonds protect you financially in case of a botched job.



GET CONTRACT IN WRITING

Keep a copy of the contract. Do not sign a contract that makes you pay more than 30% of the job up front.

For over 20 years, Texas Watch has advocated for the rights of policyholders and consumers. You can find more resources at texaswatch.org/stormhelp.

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