



Home Building Tips and Builder Interview Questions

The most important choice you will make on your new home is which building team to hire. Designing and building your next home to meet your unique needs and style is a service that requires skill, creativity and experience. When interviewing potential home builders it is difficult for many people to truly assess a home builder's ability to help them through the design and construction process.

Below is a list of tips and interview questions to help guide your selection process...

Tips:

- Home building is a service industry – Not a product. A professional home builder is your partner and consultant in investigating design and construction options, plus their costs.
- Everyone says they do quality work so be a skeptic. Go see their work.
- The finished home is only as good as the design.
- Remember **1/3 of the cost of your home is materials and products** priced on a worldwide commodities market. **2/3 is the labor** you pay to assemble these materials. Labor costs can vary wildly based on the specific *Installation Methods* and skill level a home builder requires from subcontractors.
- Always call references to inquire about their experience.
- Check with [Better Business Bureau](#) for complaints and company history.

Home Builder Interview Questions:

Copy this handout & use it to take notes if you talk to multiple home builders about your home construction process.

1. How long have you been in business?
2. What is your educational & experience background?
3. Do you have a professional designer(s) to help with space planning and selection?
4. Do you have a written scope of work/product installation methods for each trade? *If yes ask to see it.*

5. What professional associations do you belong to?
6. Do you use the same trade subcontractors consistently or receive bids for the lowest price?
7. Who will be my daily contact? How will they contact me?
8. How long has your key employees been with your company?
9. How often will my home be cleaned during the construction process?
10. How many homes have you built similar to mine?
11. On average, how much do your customers deviate from your allowances?
12. What is your change order policy?
13. What guarantees do you offer?
14. Why should I choose your company?