

## *12 Tips For Hiring A Remodeling Contractor*

1. **Get** at least three written estimates.
2. **Get** references and call to check on the work. If possible, go by and visit earlier jobs.
3. **Check** with the local Chamber of Commerce or Better Business Bureau for complaints.
4. **Be sure** that the contract states exactly what is to be done and how change orders will be handled.
5. **Make as** small a downpayment as possible so you won't lose a lot if the contractor fails to complete the job.
6. **Be sure** that the contractor has the necessary permits, licenses, and insurance.
7. **Be sure** that the contract states when the work will be completed and what recourse you have if it isn't. Also remember that in many instances you can cancel a contract within three business days of signing it.
8. **Ask if** the contractor's workers will do the entire job or whether subcontractors will do parts.
9. **Get the** contractor to indemnify you if work does not meet local building codes or regulations.
10. **Be sure** that the contract specifies the contractor will clean up after the job and be responsible for any damage.
11. **Guarantee** that materials used meet your specifications.
12. **Don't make** the final payment until you're satisfied with the work.