

How to Find a Great Residential Plumber



Our #1 Tip:

When hiring any contractor, preparation is everything.

Get organized before you pick up the phone to request an estimate.”

Three types of plumbers

Commercial – large jobs, hospitals, malls

Residential – new construction, additions to homes, bathroom remodels,

Service and Repair – clogged drains, backed up toilets – basic emergency work.

Most plumbing companies specialize in one of the three.

Dig in and start researching

1) Figure out which kind plumbing company you need (commercial, residential or service and repair).

2) For large purchases like boilers, it's smart to research the product first rather than the contractor.

Let's say after doing your homework you've decided you want either a Bosch or a Westinghouse boiler. Next, you'd be looking for plumbing contractors that specialize in installation and service of these two brands.

Or maybe you'd like a tankless water heater. Some plumbers specialize in Rheem or Takagi. You'll just want to make sure they install the one you want.

3) Ask around. Your friends might have a recommendation.

Another great way to find a good plumber is to scope out local Facebook groups. It's amazing what you can find out just by asking. Maybe you won't get the answer, but for sure you'll know who to avoid.

You can also check out Google or Yelp and read reviews. These are helpful for emergency type plumbers especially.

Call a few local plumbing supply companies. Tell them what you need to have done or what brand of product you want. They'll know all the best plumbers and most likely will give you a few names.

4) Get estimates. It's good practice to get three estimates. Have a list of questions to ask each plumber. Then you can compare bids later and make sure you're comparing apples to apples.

5) Compare value - not just price. You want a good job done, so the cheapest isn't always the best value.

6) Written Estimates - get everything in writing. If you have a question about a contract have it clarified in writing before work is started.

7) License and Insurance - Lastly, check to make sure the contractor is licensed, has liability insurance and worker's comp if they have employees.

We hope these tips have helped you in your search for the perfect plumber. Share your hiring contractor tips below. We'd love to hear from you!