NARI
NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF THE REMODELING INDUSTRY
Remodeling Done Right.™
MINNESOTA

How to Select a Remodeler

Hire the Right Person



THE GENERAL CONTRACTOR

Many home improvements may not require professional design services and can be handled by an experienced remodeling contractor. However, even small jobs need careful planning. Follow the NARI guidelines and select the right remodeler for your project.
Ask if your remodeler is certified.



THE DESIGN/BUILD CONTRACTOR

Design/Build companies benefit the homeowner by providing both quality design and construction services. A design/build contractor will be able to manage your project from start to finish, keeping design, engineering, and budget in mind.



THE ARCHITECT

Major remodeling projects require construction drawings to define contracts and permit requirements. If your remodeler does not provide design services, hire a trained, licensed architect. An architect who specializes in remodeling will ensure he or she is more sensitive to special challenges that may arise.

NARI's Core Purpose

To advance and promote the remodeling industry's professionalism, product and vital public purpose.

Code of Ethics

Each member of the National Association of the Remodeling Industry pledges to observe high standards of honesty, integrity
and responsibility in the conduct of business by:

- Promoting only those products and services which are functionally and economically sound, and which are consistent with objective standards of health and safety;
- Making all advertising and sales promotion factually accurate, avoiding those practices which tend to mislead or deceive the customer;
- Writing all contracts and warranties such that they comply with federal, state and local laws;
- Promptly acknowledging and taking appropriate action on all customer complaints;
- Refraining from any act intending to restrain trade or suppress competition;
- Obtaining and retaining insurance as required by federal, state and local authorities;
- Obtaining and retaining licensing and/or registration as required by federal, state and local authorities;
- Taking appropriate action to preserve the health and safety of employees, trade contractors, and clients.



NARI of Minnesota, Inc.
275 Market Street, Suite 514, Minneapolis, MN 55405
www.narimn.org 612-332-6274

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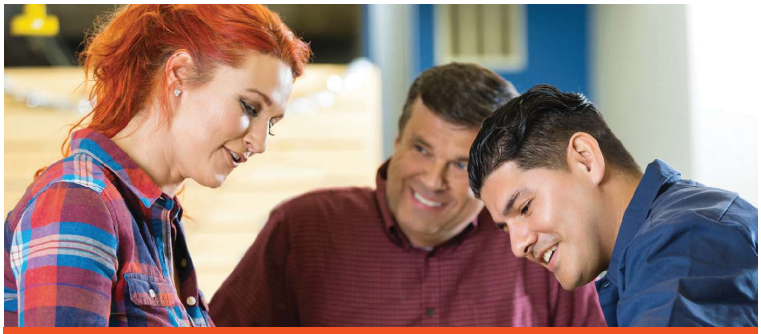
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The National Association of the Remodeling Industry (NARI), the only independent association dedicated to the remodeling industry, is a not-for-profit trade association with over 30 years of industry experience. NARI represents professional remodeling contractors, product manufacturers, distributors, wholesalers, retailers, trade publications, utilities, and lending institutions. NARI is committed to enhancing the professionalism of the remodeling industry and serves as an ally to homeowners.

NARI's 6,000+ member-companies have access to the latest information in the industry through publications, educational programs, seminars and conferences.

The NARI professional remodeler pledges to uphold the association's Code of Ethics and is dedicated to advocate professionalism and integrity.

Learn more at NARI.org



How to Select a Professional Remodeler

Selecting a qualified professional remodeling contractor is critical to a successful project.
Be better prepared to make an informed purchasing decision. NARI's guidelines make the process easier.

REFERENCES
Hire a qualified remodeler with an established business in your area who works with your city or village permitting office. Local firms can be checked through references from past customers.

REPUTATION
Check with your state government Consumer Affairs Office and Better Business Bureau to ensure there is no adverse file on record for the contractor.

INSURANCE
Verify coverage. Ask to see a copy of the contractor's Certification of Insurance. Make sure the contractor's insurance coverage meets all the minimum requirements. Most states require a contractor to carry a worker's compensation, property damage and personal liability insurance.

BID PROCESS
If you solicit bids from several different companies, be sure they are bidding on the same scope and quality of work and/or product. Discuss variations in bids and beware of any bid that is much lower than others.

Start Here



NARI's website makes it easy to find a remodeler in your area. Get inspired - learn the importance about certifications and the benefits of using a NARI member all in one place.
Visit NARI.org/consumers
Have questions and want to talk to someone directly?
Call NARI at 847-298-9200

10 Steps to Remodeling Done Right.™

A contract should include details about what the contractor will and will not do and is essential before the start of any project — big or small.

CONTRACT CHECKLIST:

1. Be sure the contract includes the contractor's name, address, phone, license number (if applicable), start and completion dates.
2. A detailed list of materials for the project should be included in your contract, with information such as size, color, model, brand name and product.
3. Consider the scope of the project and make sure all items you've requested are included. If you do not see a specific item in the contract, consider it not included.
4. Study the design plans carefully. Insist that you approve them and they are identified in your own written contract before any work begins.
5. Known as the "Right of Rescission," federal law requires a contractor to give you a written notice of your right to (without penalty) cancel a contract within three business days of signing it, provided it was solicited at some place other than the contractor's place of business or appropriate trade premises.
6. Make sure financial terms are understood and spelled out in the contract. Total price, payment schedule and any cancellation penalty should be clear.
7. A warranty covering materials and workmanship for a minimum of one year should be written into the contract. The warranty must be identified as either "full" or "limited". The name and address of the party who will honor the warranty (contractor, distributor or manufacturer) must be identified. Make sure the time period and terms for the warranty is specified.
8. A binding arbitration clause is also a good inclusion in the event a disagreement occurs. Arbitration may enable you to resolve disputes without costly litigation.
9. Thoroughly review the entire contract and be certain you understand it before signing.
10. Never sign an incomplete contract and always get a final copy.