



A WORD FROM WOOLSEY CONSTRUCTION

Woolsey Construction has been transforming client visions into reality for over 15 years. Our reputation for excellence and meticulous craftmanship has resulted in stunning spaces throughout the San Diego region. As an expert design-build firm, we are passionate about what we do and want to help streamline the process of knowing where to start when hiring a contractor.

The process of hiring a contractor may seem like a daunting task, but it is a crucial step to mitigating risk that can arise from hiring the wrong contractor. To assist in this endeavor, we have created an informational guide for vetting a contractor. This guide includes:

- 5-step vetting process
- Process checklist
- Links to resources
- FAQ





THE VETTING PROCESS

5 STEPS TO TAKE BEFORE HIRING A CONTRACTOR



Start your search by selecting contractors that are licensed, bonded, and insured to work on your specific type of project. For instance, a plumber should not be framing and vise versa.

2. PORTFOLIO REVIEW

Review contractor portfolios for an overview of their workmanship and experience. Ensure the contractors you've narrowed down align with your expectations and note the level of professionalism experienced during any interactions with them.

3. PERFORM A BACKGROUND CHECK

Verify selected contractor's credentials.
Run their state license number and
confirm they are bonded, have commercial
general liability insurance, and worker's
compensation insurance. Ask for customer
testimonials too. This research will reveal any
past legal issues and formal complaints on file.



Know what you want included in your project scope. Include the same scope for all estimate comparisons to ensure you're comparing apples to apples. If it's not in the scope, it's not in the price or work plan. Contractors should estimate and perform the work in the scope. Any project items added later is a change order and may have associated fees.

5. OBTAINING ESTIMATES

At minimum, obtain at least three estimates from different contractors. This will help bring perspective on the cost variabilities based on contractor quality, experience, and skill level ranges.







PROCESS CHECKLIST

SCAN QR CODE FOR MORE INFORMATION DUE DILIGENCE FOR YOUR PROJECT

1	HAVE I VERIFIED THE CONTRACTOR IS QUALIFIED AND LICENSED PROPERLY TO WORK ON MY PROJECT?	CLICK HERE
	YES NO	For more information
2	HAVE I VERIFIED THAT THE CONTRACTOR'S STATE LICENSE NUMBER IS CURRENT AND IN GOOD STANDING?	
	☐ YES ☐ NO	
3	HAVE I CONFIRMED THE CONTRACTOR IS BONDED, HAS LIABILITY, AND WORKER'S COMPENSATION INSURANCE?	
	YES NO	
4	DO I HAVE A WRITTEN CONTRACT IN ACCORDANCE WITH CALIFORNIA'S CONTRACTOR STATE LICENSING BOARD?	CLICK HERE
	☐ YES ☐ NO	For more information
5	DOES THE CONTRACTOR INCLUDE EVERYTHING I WANT IN THE SCOPE AND ESTIMATE?	
	☐ YES ☐ NO	
6	IS THE CONTRACTOR'S BUSINESS FINANCIALLY STABLE?	CLICK HERE
U	YES NO	For more information
7	DOES THE CONTRACTOR PRESENT THEIR ESTIMATES, COMMUNICATIONS, AND CONTRACTS IN A PROFESSIONAL MANNER?	
	☐ YES ☐ NO	
8	HAVE I IDENTIFIED MULTIPLE CONTRACTORS TO OBTAIN PROJECT ESTIMATES FOR COMPARISON?	CLICK HERE
U	YES NO	For more information
9	DOES THE CONTRACTOR OFFER A WORKMANSHIP WARRANTY?	
	☐ YES ☐ NO	
10	HAVE I CHECKED PAST CLIENT REFERENCES FOR THE CONTRACTORS I AM CONSIDERING?	CLICK HERE
	☐ YES ☐ NO	For more information



FAQ



WHY DO I NEED TO VET A CONTRACTOR?

By vetting a contractor or construction company, you're ensuring they are properly licensed, insured, and in good standing to be considered for your project. This due diligence may protect you from assuming potential liability of defective work and job site injuries that can leave you vulnerable to litigation.



WHY DO I NEED MULTIPLE ESTIMATES?

Several estimates from different contractors helps identify price inconsistencies and their cause. For example, estimates may differ in pricing due to the exclusion of scope items, and/or lower quality finishes than desired. Future change orders for items not included in the scope and the estimate can potentially lead to higher job costs.



SHOULD I SELECT THE LOWEST ESTIMATE?

Investigate how the lowest estimate came in as such. Are all of the job scope items included in comparison to the others? Is the desired quality of materials or grade of finishes priced properly? Verify if your desired quality expectations are included in the price and project scope. Miscommunications or assumptions can be costly.



WHY FINANCIAL STABILITY OF A CONTRACTOR MATTERS TO MY PROJECT?

Financial stability of a company contributes to its reputation and credibility. This cultivates a relationship of trustworthiness and reliability needed for peace of mind that your project will be completed successfully and in a timely manner.

THE WOOLSEY WAY





The Woolsey Way represents our commitment to delivering a full-service experience to our valued clients with our professional services. We go beyond the traditional contractor-client relationship, seeking to be more than just service providers. We are committed to partnering with our clients, understanding and empathizing what the full impact of construction projects can have on them.

We believe it is important to invest in our entire team and approach each design-build with mindfulness, collaboration, communication, care, and professional service with a solution-oriented perspective.

MINDFULNESS

We strive to encourage a culture of awareness and empathy, dedicating ourselves to thoughtful consideration of the diverse perspectives, needs, and experiences of all those we interact with.

COLLABORATION

We embrace the value of teamwork and actively seek opportunities to collaborate in order to achieve a common goal.

COMMUNICATION

We prioritize effective communication by creating an environment where every voice is heard and valued, promoting open dialogue and understanding.





CARE

We consistently demonstrate genuine concern for our clients and customers, going above and beyond to meet their needs whenever possible, and ensuring their well-being and satisfaction are our top priority.

PROFESSIONAL SERVICE/SOLUTION-ORIENTED

We maintain high standards of quality, ethics, and accountability while encouraging a problem-solving mindset. We prioritize identifying and implementing practical solutions to challenges that may arise.

In essence, we see the construction process not just as a series of tasks, but as a holistic experience.

We aim to make the experience as smooth, stress-free, and rewarding as possible, recognizing that the true measure of our success is not just in the quality of our craftsmanship, but in the overall well-being and satisfaction of our clients.





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