

HOW TO CHOOSE THE RIGHT HVAC CONTRACTOR?

If you're a home owner, you need a good heating & air conditioning contractor. Your HVAC system needs to be maintained on a regular basis and you'll need to know who to call when your heating or ac unit needs to be repaired or replaced.



Popularity or name recognition does not mean the HVAC contractor is the right one for your situation. There are several other factors to consider.

Before choosing a contractor, do your homework and go through this checklist to ensure that you are choosing the best.

1 ASK FOR REFERRALS

Ask friends, neighbors, and co-workers for contractor referrals. Or, let HVAC.com connect you with a pre-screened local contractor for free!



2 REVIEW REVIEWS

Go online and look up contractors in your area and read their customer ratings and reviews. Happy customers are a good sign.

3 CHECK THEIR WEBSITE

Read each contractor's website. How long have they been in business? Are they professional? Do their company values and culture resonate with you? Are these the kind of people you want to invite into your home?



4 ASK GOOD QUESTIONS

Do they specialize in your kind of HVAC system? Most contractors work on all brands of HVAC equipment, but if you have a specialized system like a boiler or geothermal heat pump, make sure the contractor is well-trained and experienced.



5 CALL REFERENCES

Ask contractors for customer references and call them.

Ask about the contractor's installation or service performance, and if the job was completed on time and within budget.



6 FIND SPECIAL OFFERS

A heating and cooling system is one of the largest purchases you'll make as a homeowner.

Keep your costs down by checking around for available rebates on energy-efficient qualified heating and cooling equipment.



7 EXPECT A HOME EVALUATION

The contractor should spend significant time inspecting your current system and home to assess your needs.

Does he ask good questions to make sure to address your needs?



8 GET WRITTEN, ITEMIZED QUOTES

When comparing contractors' proposals (bids), be sure to compare cost, warranties, system features and energy efficiency.

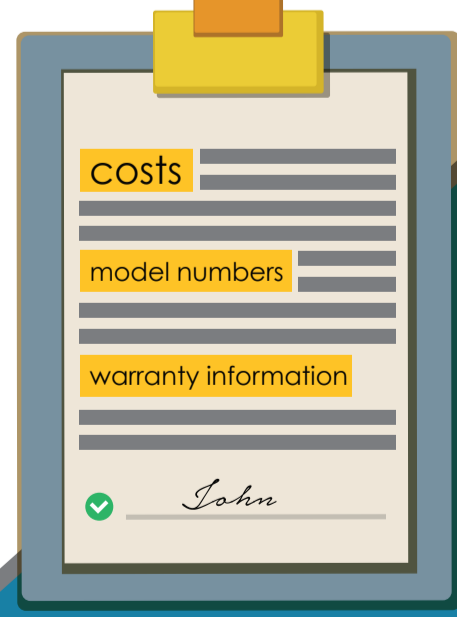
The lowest up-front price may not be the best deal if it's not the most efficient because your energy costs will be higher for the life of the system.



9 GET IT IN INK

Sign a written proposal with a contractor before work gets started.

It'll protect you by specifying project costs, model numbers, job schedule, and warranty information.



10 WORK WITH HVAC.COM

We exist to empower you to choose the right contractor. We've already done all the right to interview & screen quality contractors all over the country. We can connect you with an HVAC.com Certified Contractor, fast and free!

[Click here to connect with a pro from the HVAC.com Contractor Network today!](#)

Sources:

<http://www.hvac.com/>
http://www.energystar.gov/index.cfm?c=heat_cool_pr_contractors_10tips
<https://www.bls.gov/ooh/installation-maintenance-and-repair/heating-air-conditioning-and-refrigeration-mechanics-and-installers.htm>

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