

The Ultimate Renovation Guide

Presented by Renovation Bridge Founders Onn Matalon & Jacob Gabriel

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What is Renovation Bridge

If you've ever dreaded renovating because of all the horror stories from friends, family, or even your own past experiences, and you've wondered if there's a better way spoiler alert—there is, and I'm about to tell you how.

Renovation Bridge exists for one reason: to make your renovation journey as simple and as stress-free as possible. We get it—finding reliable contractors, juggling quotes, keeping everything on track & maintaining a personal life can sometimes feel impossible. That's where we come in.



We start by getting to know your project better than you know the back of your hand from timelines, budgets, and scope of work we go over every detail. Then, we handpick a few rockstar contractors who perfectly fit your projects needs who've already passed our rigorous vetting process. But we don't just drop them in your lap and say, "Good luck!". We schedule free walkthroughs so you can meet these pros face-to-face, get you multiple proposals, and help you easily compare your options without breaking a sweat.

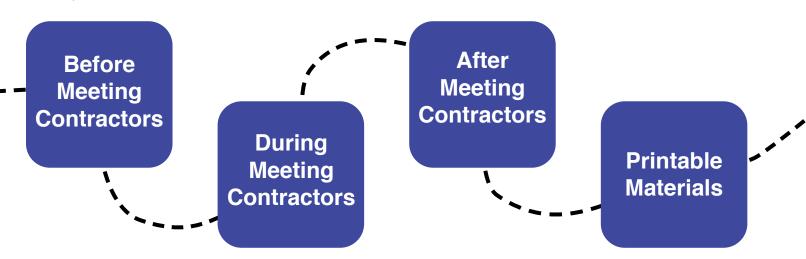
And because we're all about making your life easier, we've thrown in three free goodies below: a contractor checklist, a questionnaire guide, and a pricing sheet. These are your secret weapons to keep the renovation process running like a well-oiled machine.

So without further ado lets renovate smarter, not harder, together.

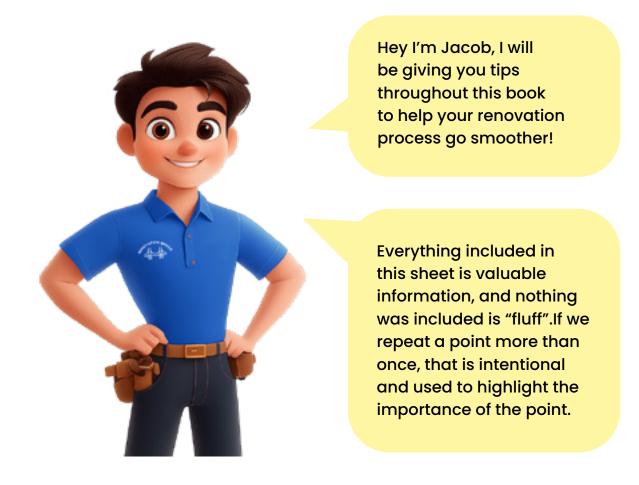
Warm regards, Onn Matalon & Jacob Gabriel Founders of Renovation Bridge

How this Guide Works

I've broken this guide down into four super easy sections.



In the first three sections, my goal is to increase your knowledge on each topic so that you fully understand the printable materials and can use them as your secret weapons.





Before you meet with contractors

This section is only for homeowners who choose to take on the task of finding and vetting contractors on their own. If you go through Renovation Bridge, you can skip all the hassle—knowing we've already taken care of these steps for you!

Before you Meet with Contractors

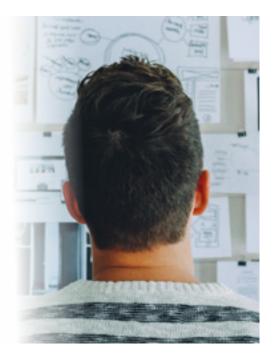
Preparing for a home renovation involves several crucial steps to ensure a smooth and successful project. Here's a detailed guide to help you get ready before meeting with contractors.

Step 1: Define Your Renovation Goals

Sit down with your family and clearly outline what you want to renovate and why. Understanding the purpose of your renovation is essential. Are you looking to increase your home's value? Preparing to sell? Addressing a long-term issue? figuring out your "why" is the first step that this guide will help you uncover! so grab your coffee now 🛎

Step 2: Brainstorm Ideas

This step should be exciting and creative. Gather your family and let your imaginations run wild as you envision your home as a blank canvas. Explore design ideas, gather inspiration from magazines, websites, and social media, and make a list of must-haves and nice-tohaves. This brainstorming session will help you clarify your vision and communicate it effectively to your contractor.





Step 3: Establish a Rough Budget

Before you dive into contractor meetings, it's smart to have a budget in mind. Think of it as your roadmap—be honest about what you can afford, and keep in mind that initial estimates might surprise you by being higher or lower. This rough budget will help you filter out the noise and focus on what really fits during the bidding process. We've also got you covered with a handy pricing sheet—just click here to access it. Use it to line up your budget with the contractor's numbers, and you'll be ready to roll.

Step 4: Research Contractors or Use Renovation Bridge

Once you've got your vision and budget locked in, it's time to find the right contractor. Now, you could go the DIY route and hunt down contractors yourself—we've even included a list of must-ask questions and things to watch out for in the next section. But, that can get pretty time-consuming and overwhelming. If you'd rather skip the hassle, just schedule a quick chat with one of our matchmakers at Renovation Bridge.



Before you meet with contractors

We'll get to know your project inside and out, then connect you with the best of the best—highly vetted, licensed, and insured pros right in your area. This streamlined process saves you time, money, and a whole lot of stress. And don't worry, all the tips in this guide work for vetting any contractor you choose.



The biggest non-negotiable is working with an unlicensed contractor or doing unpermitted work when permits are required. The money and time you think you're saving aren't worth the enormous risk you're taking with your home, your family, and your peace of mind.

Step 5: Prepare for Contractor Meetings



Before meeting with the contractors, ensure thorough preparation by making renovation areas accessible and clutter-free, discussing goals and budgets with your family, and setting clear boundaries for working hours and off-limits areas.

Print out the checklist at the end of this guide to have on hand when you meet with contractors. This checklist includes important questions to ask and key details to note, ensuring you gather all the information you need to make an informed decision. Being well-prepared will help you evaluate each contractor's suitability for your project.

By following these steps, you'll be well-equipped to meet with contractors and move forward with your renovation project confidently. principles by which an enterprise regarders the implementation of

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IMPROVEMENT

How to vet a contractor on your own

This section is only for homeowners who choose to take on the task of finding and vetting contractors on their own. If you go through Renovation Bridge, you can skip all the hassle—knowing we've already taken care of these steps for you!

How to vet a contractor on your own

Vetting your contractors is a crucial step in your renovation process—this decision can literally make or break your entire project. The good news? We've already put in the hard work, spending hundreds of hours vetting contractors so that when you meet with a Renovation Bridge contractor, you know you're dealing with the very best. But if, for some reason, you're not using Renovation Bridge, no worries! I've included a simplified version of our vetting process to help you out.

Step 1: Research and Recommendations

Start by gathering recommendations from friends, family, and exploring online reviews. While personal referrals are usually trustworthy, navigating online reviews can be a bit tricky. It's important to carefully sift through them to spot genuine feedback, which often means checking multiple sources like Google, Yelp, and the company's social media presence. This process can take some time and effort, but it's crucial for getting a clear picture of the contractor's reputation.

Step 2: Verify Credentials

Ensure the contractor is licensed, bonded, and insured. This step involves contacting your state's licensing authority to confirm the contractor's license is valid and checking for any complaints of disciplinary actions. Bonding and insurance protect you in case of accidents or incomplete work, so ask for proof of both and verify with the issuing agencies. You can also check this by typing the contractor's license number into the California State License Board at https://www.cslb.ca.gov/



But of course, if you go with renovation bridge, we have already vetted all of our contractors thoroughly so you do not have to worry about this step!

Step 3: Interview Potential Contractors

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We have attached our free contractor check list that includes all of the necessary questions you need to ask your contractor. Conducting these interviews takes time and effort, and you must assess not only their answers but also their professionalism and communication skills.

Step 4: Check References

Contact the references provided and ask detailed questions about their experience. Was the project completed on time and within budget? How was the communication throughout the process? Were there any issues, and if so, how were they resolved? This step can be time consuming but is essential for ensuring the contractor's reliability and quality of work.

Step 5: Review Past Work

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Ask to see a portfolio of the contractors previous projects. ideally those similar to yours. Visiting completed projects in person, if possible, gives you a better sense of their craftsmanship and attention to detail. Online portfolios can be helpful, but nothing beats seeing the work firsthand.



If you're working with contractors through Renovation Bridge, just ask your matchmaker or contractor if there are any open projects—they'll be more than happy to take you to see them!

Step 6: Trust your Instincts

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Finally, trust your gut feeling. If something feels off during your interactions, it's better to walk away before committing. A good contractor should instill confidence and trust from the very beginning.



These 6 steps are a very simplified version but if you follow them you will be better off then 90% of homeowners we talk too!

Conclusion

Vetting your contractors is one of the most critical steps in the renovation process—it can make or break your entire project. By following these six steps thoroughly, you'll ensure a smoother experience and a successful outcome for your renovation. And as always, if you prefer a done-foryou experience, visit <u>renovationbridge.com</u>.



How to Budget Your Project

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Start

How to Budget Your Project

Before you even start meeting with contractors its crutial that you and your family discuss a budget that you are going to alocate to this project your first budget will change over time as you meet with contractors and gather more information so its

crucial not to get married to a number before you have alla vilbe information but you should still have a rough range in your head before talking to contractors here is how i help homeonwers get that number.

We've included a super handy spreadsheet with all the calculations already done for you—all you need to do is input a few details.

Link to spread sheet

Step 1: Determine the Value of Your Home and Your Neighbors' Homes

Start by getting a rough estimate of your home's value, as well as your neighbors'. Websites like Zillow and Redfin can provide you with a ballpark figure, though keep in mind that these estimates can vary by 10-12%.

Step 2: Calculate Your Budget Range and Income

We've included three industry-standard formulas to help you determine how much you should spend based on your income, home value, and expected ROI.

A good rule of thumb is to budget between 5% to 25% of your home's value for renovations. Over-improving beyond this range can lead to diminishing returns, where you may not recover the investment when selling your home.



Of course everyone wants the coolest house on the block! But Over-improving your home can lead to diminishing returns, where the money you invest doesn't significantly increase your property's value. Additionally, making your home much more expensive than others in your neighborhood can make it harder to sell and recover your investment. When saving for home renovations, it's often recommended not to set aside more than 20-30% of your annual income to avoid financial strain. This helps ensure you're not overextending yourself financially.

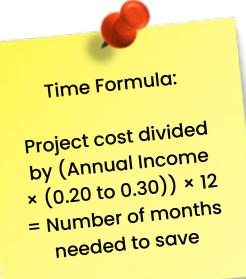
Formula:

Take the total cost of your project and divide it by your annual income multiplied by 20% to 30% (depending on how much of your income you want to save). Then, multiply that number by 12. The result will tell you how many months it'll take to save up for your project.

Return on Investment (ROI):

Consider the ROI for each project. Kitchens and bathrooms typically offer higher ROI, often 80-120% of the cost can be recouped in the home's value. for ADUs and additions The ROI Depends on your home & your neighborhood.

Formula: Projected ROI = Cost of Renovation × Estimated ROI %



How to budget your project

1. Kitchen Remodel Minor Remodel: 90-120% Major Remodel: 80-110%

2. Bathroom Remodel Midrange Remodel: 85-100% Upscale Remodel: 80-95%

3. Roof Replacement Asphalt Shingles: 65-80% Metal Roof: 75-90%

4. Window Replacement Vinyl Windows: 80-95% Wood Windows: 75-90%

5. Garage Door Replacement ROI: 95-120%

6. Deck Addition Wood Deck: 80-95% Composite Deck: 70-85%

7. Attic Insulation ROI: 85-100% 8. Entry Door Replacement (Steel) ROI: 90-105%

9. Siding Replacement Vinyl Siding: 80-95% Fiber Cement Siding: 85-100%

10. Room Addition Family Room Addition: 65-80% Master Suite Addition: 60-75%

11. Accessory Dwelling Unit (ADU) ROI: 105-250% (varies significantly based on location and demand)

12. Landscaping ROI: 85-110%

> 13. Solar Panel Installation ROI: 85-110% (depends heavily on energy savings and incentives)

These numbers are Bay Area averages as of Q3 2024 and can vary significantly depending on your zip code. Always consult with your dedicated matchmaker for the most accurate and current advice.

Contingency Percentage:

It's wise to set aside 10-20% of your total renovation budget for unexpected expenses and any changes you might want to make along the way. Homeowners often decide to expand their renovation scope once the project is underway, so we always recommend having a contingency fund to ensure you're prepared and that your project gets completed exactly the way you want it.





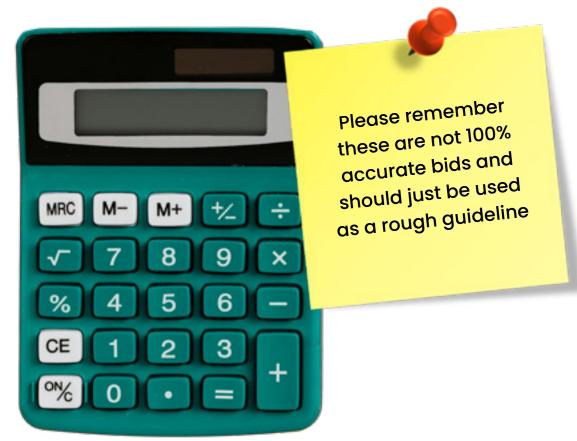
While project's don't always go over budget, it is always good to be prepared and plan all possibilities.

Example Calculation:

Kitchen & Bath Renovation

Home Value: \$1,000,000 Annual Income: \$200,000 Desired Renovation Budget Range: 15% of home value -> \$150,000 Contingency Fund (15%): \$22,500 Total Budget: \$172,500 Years need to save ~ 3 Years ROI ~ 100% Updated home value ~ \$1,172,500

For those using the printout, I've included a super easy chart on page 30 to help you with this exercise. And for those viewing this on a computer, HERE is a link to a spreadsheet.



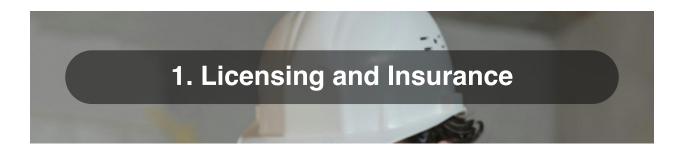


During your contractor meeting

What To Ask Your Contractor

As part of the printable materials, we've included a checklist for you to fill out, which you can access by <u>clicking here</u>. Before you dive in, it's important to understand why these questions matter, so we've provided a list of the questions along with explanations for why you should ask them.

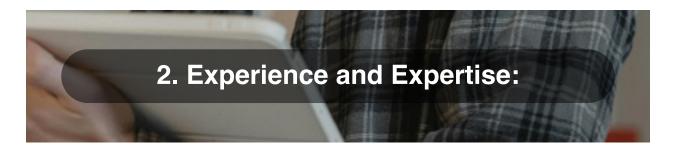
Keep in mind, if you're meeting with a contractor through Renovation Bridge, we've already taken care of step 1 for you, plus we've screened them for questions 2, 4, 5, and 10! But if you're vetting the contractor on your own, it's crucial to ask these questions yourself.



- Are they licensed and insured
- Can they provide proof of insurance and licensing
- Do they have any certifications or special training



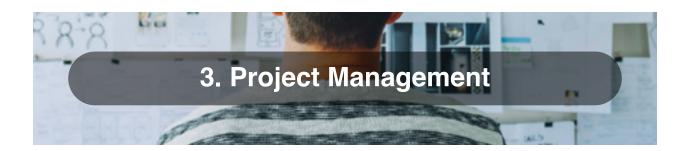
Why it's important: These questions ensure that your contractor is operating legally and has the necessary protections in place, so you're not left holding the bag if something goes wrong.



- How long have they been in business
- Can they provide references from past clients
- Have they worked on similar projects to yours



Why it's important: These questions help you assess whether the contractor has the right experience and proven success in projects similar to yours, giving you confidence that they can deliver quality results.



- Who will be managing your project?
- How often will they provide updates on the progress?
- What is their approach to dealing with unexpected issues or changes?



Why it's important: These questions ensure you know who's in charge and how they'll keep you informed, as well as how they'll handle any surprises—so you can avoid being blindsided by delays or added costs.



- What is their estimated timeline for your project
- When can they start
- How do they handle delays



Why it's important: These questions help you understand the contractor's availability and ensure their timeline aligns with your expectations, while also giving you insight into how they'll manage any potential delays.



- Can they provide a detailed written estimate
- What is their payment schedule
- Are there any potential additional costs you should be aware of



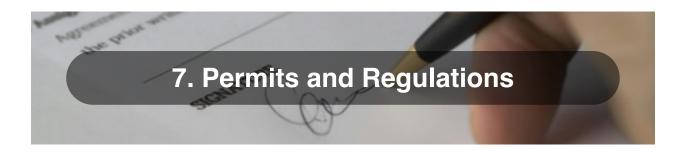
Why it's important: These questions ensure transparency around costs, helping you avoid surprises and understand exactly what you're paying for and when, so you can budget confidently.



- Do they use subcontractors, and if so, how are they selected
- Will the same team be working on your project throughout
- Can I see a project that the same crew of sub contractors Have / are working on



Why it's important: These questions help you understand who will actually be doing the work on your project and ensure consistency and quality in the team handling your renovation.



- Will they handle obtaining all necessary permits
- Are they familiar with local building codes and regulations
- Can they provide an additional cost breakdown for just the permits



Why it's important: These questions ensure your contractor is knowledgeable and proactive about legal requirements, so your project stays compliant and avoids costly delays or fines.



- What is the best way to contact them during the project
- How promptly do they respond to messages or concerns
- How they will deal with any unanticipated events during the process



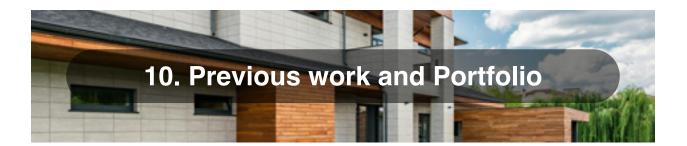
Why it's important: These questions ensure you'll have clear and timely communication with your contractor, so you're never left in the dark and any surprises are handled smoothly.



- Do they offer warranty on their work
- How do they handle post-project issues or touch ups
- How long do their warranties last



Why it's important: These questions give you peace of mind by ensuring that your contractor stands behind their work and will be there to address any issues that arise after the project is complete.



- Can they show you examples of their previous work
- Can you visit any of their completed and/or active job sites
- Do they have experience with projects similar to yours



Why it's important: These questions help you verify the quality of their work and ensure they have hands-on experience with projects like yours, giving you confidence in their ability to deliver the results you want.

Conclusion

These are the 30 questions we would personally ask any contractor who's looking to work on our homes. To make it easy for you, use the checklist we've included at the end of this guide. Bring it along when you meet with contractors to make sure you're covering all the bases and asking the right questions.



After your contractor meeting

After the meeting

At Renovation Bridge, we usually schedule 3-4 contractor meetings back-to-back so you can easily compare them. We highly recommend taking a few minutes between each meeting to fill out the checklist below while everything is still fresh in your mind. Once you've wrapped up your contractor meetings, your first step should be reaching out to your dedicated Renovation Bridge Matchmaker and sharing with them your thoughts and experiences on each contractor.

If you're meeting with contractors on your own, we still recommend using this printable content to get the most out of your meetings. Even if you decide not to work with a Renovation Bridge contractor, feel free to reach out to us anytime for clarifications or if you run into any issues. We're here to help!



By sharing these details with your matchmaker, you're enabling them to help you make the smartest decision for your project. Keep in mind, they've seen hundreds of projects before and bring a wealth of experience to the table.

Check in with Your Dedicated Renovation Bridge Matchmaker

- Go over the notes you took during the meeting
- Share what you liked and disliked about the contractors

Your matchmaker will use all of the information you provided to help assist you make the right decision moving forward that makes the most sense for you and your family.

Compare Contractor Proposals:

Take some time to review and compare the proposals you've received from each contractor. Look at details like timelines, costs, and any special terms or conditions. Your Renovation Bridge Matchmaker will help you through this stage and will even negotiate on your behalf so you can get the best deal possible.

Thanks to the strong relationships we've built with our contractors, we have significant leverage in negotiations. So if you have a preferred contractor whose bid is higher than another's, we can step in and work with them to potentially lower or even match their bid, ensuring you get the best value without compromising on quality.

NOTE: The negotiation strategies discussed in this chapter are an exclusive feature of working with Renovation Bridge. We won't be able to assist with negotiations outside of our network of contractors.



How to Choose Your Contractor

How to Choose Your Contractor

Now that you've met and interviewed a few promising contractors, it's time to make an informed decision about which one is the best fit for your project. This can be tough, especially when you have several strong options. To help you navigate this crucial decisionmaking process, we've put together a guide.

(And remember, this is a simplified process of what your dedicated Renovation Bridge Matchmaker will follow to help you make the right choice.)

1. Evaluate their proposals

Compare Detailed Estimates:

 Take a close look at each contractor's estimate. Don't just focus on the total cost—dig into the details like labor, materials, and any extra fees. A well-detailed estimate shows the contractor is planning thoroughly and being transparent with you.

Check for Hidden Costs:

 Ensure there aren't any hidden costs or vague terms in the proposals. Clear, itemized estimates give you a solid understanding of what you're paying for and help you avoid unwelcome surprises later on. It's also crucial that the contractor provides you with a clear project timeline so you know exactly what's happening in your home at every stage.

2. Assess Communication and Professionalism:

Evaluate Responsiveness:

 Consider how promptly and clearly each contractor communicated with you during the initial meetings. A contractor who is responsive and communicative is likely to be more reliable and easier to work with.

Gauge Professionalism

 Reflect on the professionalism displayed during your interactions. This includes punctuality, preparedness, and the ability to address your questions and concerns comprehensively.

3. Review Their Experience and Expertise:

Revisit Their Portfolios:

 Look again at their previous work, especially projects similar to yours. Consider the quality and style of their work, and whether it aligns with your vision.

Check References Again:

• Follow up with the references provided to ask any additional questions that may have arisen after your meetings. Inquire about their long-term satisfaction with the contractor's work.

4. Consider Logistics and Compability:

Availability and Timeline:

 Ensure the contractor's availability aligns with your project timeline. Discuss any potential scheduling conflicts and how they plan to manage their workload. If your project requires you to move out of your home for a certain period, make sure you have a clear understanding of when that will be and for how long, so you can plan accordingly.

Team and Subcontractors:

 Understand who will be working on your project. Ensure you are comfortable with the contractor's team or any subcontractors they plan to use, as their skills and reliability will impact the project's success.



For example, if six contractors tell you that you don't need to relocate during the renovation, but one insists you do, that could be a red flag indicating they might be inexperienced with the type of renovation you're planning.

5. Evaluate Trust and Comfort Level:

Trust Your Instincts:

• Your comfort level with the contractor is important. Trust your gut feelings about who you feel most confident and comfortable working with throughout the project.

Assess problem-Solving Skills:

 Consider how each contractor addressed potential challenges or changes during your discussions. A contractor with strong problem-solving skills and flexibility can handle unexpected issues more effectively.

6. Final Checks and Balances

Review Contract Terms:

 Carefully review the contract terms offered by each contractor. Ensure all aspects of the project, including timelines, payment schedules, warranties, and procedures for changes or disputes, are clearly defined.

Verify Licenses and Insurance:

 Double-check that the contractor's licenses and insurance are up to date. This step ensures you are protected in case of accidents or legal issues.

Making Your Decision

After thoroughly evaluating each contractor based on the above criteria, you should have a clearer picture of who is the best fit for your project. Remember, the cheapest option is not always the best one. Consider the overall value each contractor offers, including their reliability, quality of work, and your comfort level with them.

How Renovation Bridge Can Help

While choosing a contractor on your own is doable, it's a complex and time-consuming process. At Renovation Bridge, we make it easy by matching you with pre-vetted, top-tier contractors who perfectly fit your needs. We handle all the legwork, from initial vetting to final selection, so you can be confident you're getting the best professional for your project—without all the hassle.

By following this guide, you can confidently choose the right contractor for your home renovation, ensuring a smoother, more successful project. If you need any further assistance or have questions, don't hesitate to schedule a call with a team member at <u>renovationbridge.com</u> or give us a call today at (925)-693-7590



Red Flags to Look For in a Contractor

Red Flags to Look For in a Contractor

Selecting the right contractor is crucial to the success of your renovation project. But let's be honest—the process can be tricky, especially when it comes to spotting potential red flags. Identifying these ten warning signs early on can save you time, money, and tons of stress. Here's a guide for how to identify common red flags when choosing a contractor. And remember, if you're using Renovation Bridge, we've already taken care of this vetting for you.

1. Lack of Licensing and Insurance

Red Flag:

The contractor cannot provide proof of proper licensing or insurance.

Why it Matters:

 Licensed contractors meet industry standards and regulations, ensuring they're qualified for the job. Insurance and permits protect you from being liable for any accidents or damages that might occur during the project.

2. Unclear or Vague Estimates

Red Flag:

• The estimate is not detailed or lacks specific information about the cost breakdown.

Why it Matters:

 Vague estimates can open the door to surprise costs and disagreements over what was actually included in the deal. Clear details upfront help prevent headaches later on.



Red Flag:

• The contractor demands a significant portion of the payment upfront.

Why it Matters:

 In California, a contractor isn't allowed to ask for more than 10% of the project cost or \$1,000—whichever is less. A demand for a large upfront payment can be a red flag for financial instability, potential fraud, and is illegal in California.

4. No Written Contract

Red Flag:

• The contractor is unwilling to provide a written contract.

Why it Matters:

• A written contract spells out the scope of work, timelines, payment schedules, and other critical details, protecting both you and the contractor from misunderstandings and disputes.



Red Flag:

The contractor is hard to reach, doesn't return calls promptly, or gives evasive responses.

Why it Matters:

 Good communication is key to addressing concerns, managing changes, and keeping the project on track. If a contractor doesn't pick up the phone, don't waste your time—move on.

6. Negative Reviews and References

Red Flag:

• The contractor has multiple negative reviews or cannot provide satisfactory references.

Why it Matters:

• A pattern of bad reviews or the inability to provide solid references often signals a history of poor workmanship or customer service issues. Don't ignore these warning signs.



Red Flag:

• The contractor cannot show examples of past work or provide a portfolio.

Why it Matters:

 A portfolio showcases the contractor's experience and the quality of their work, giving you a clear sense of whether they're the right fit for your project. If they can't provide this, it's a major red flag.

8. Reluctance to Provide a Timeline

Red Flag:

• The contractor avoids committing to a project timeline.

Why it Matters:

 A clear timeline is crucial for managing expectations and keeping the project on track. If a contractor can't provide a timeline before you sign a contract, it's a sign of inexperience—and a big red flag to steer clear of.

9. High Turnover of Crew

Red Flag:

• The contractor frequently changes crew members or uses many subcontractors.

Why it Matters:

 Consistency in the team working on your project is key to maintaining quality and efficiency. It's best to work with contractors who use dedicated subcontractors, so the people you see on day one are the same ones finishing your project.

10. Unprofessional Behavior

Red Flag:

 The contractor displays unprofessional behavior, such as showing up late, being disrespectful, or providing inconsistent information.

Why it Matters:

 Professionalism is a key indicator of reliability and respect for both your project and your home. Don't overlook these signs they often serve as a preview of what's to come.

The Renovation Bridge Solutions

At Renovation Bridge, we ensure homeowners only meet with the top 1% of contractors in the Bay Area. Every contractor you connect with through Renovation Bridge has been thoroughly vetted using the same system we're teaching you in this guide, giving you and your family peace of mind. Renovation Bridge always has your back. Give us a call at (925) 391-4419 or visit renovationbridge.com to schedule a free call with one of our matchmakers.



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About Us

Onn Matalon,

From a young age, my life revolved around construction sites. Growing up in a family of contractors, my weekends and after-school hours were spent exploring job sites, where I quickly fell in love with the industry. Although traditional school wasn't my path, my passion for learning and business drove me to immerse myself in various ventures, from



fashion and cars to homes & Real Estate. But no matter where my journey took me, I always found myself drawn back to where it all began—renovations.

My true passion lies in providing value, a principle that has guided me throughout my life and continues to inspire me to be a better person each day. When I founded Renovation Bridge, I made a commitment to share that passion with the world, aiming to make Renovation Bridge the premier go-to service for renovations. My mission is to turn Renovation Bridge into a trusted name synonymous with quality, care, and unmatched expertise in the renovation industry—one homeowner at a time.

Jacob Gabriel,

It's hard to follow up on Onn's impressive resume 😂 But I had my introduction to the construction scene was when Onn had approached me with an idea he had. The way he presented it to me was simple; to simplify the way homeowners choose contractors.



At the time, I was working in social media and marketing while also pursuing a career in music and production. It was during this period that I discovered my passion for helping people and creating something that made a meaningful impact. We identified a significant gap in the renovation industry—a lack of reliable resources for homeowners seeking vetted contractors. Recognizing this need, we founded Renovation Bridge to fill that gap, one homeowner at a time. Building this company from the ground up has been an absolute pleasure, and it brings me immense joy to hear how we've saved hundreds of homeowners time, money, and effort on their renovation projects.



Printable content

We recommend that you have these handy when meeting in person with the contractors.

46 Contractor name:

Questions to Ask:

1. Are you licensed and insured?

2. How long have you been in the business?

3. How will my project be managed?

4. What is the timeline for my project? What are the start and end dates?

5. What will my payment schedule look like?

6. Who will actually be working on my project?

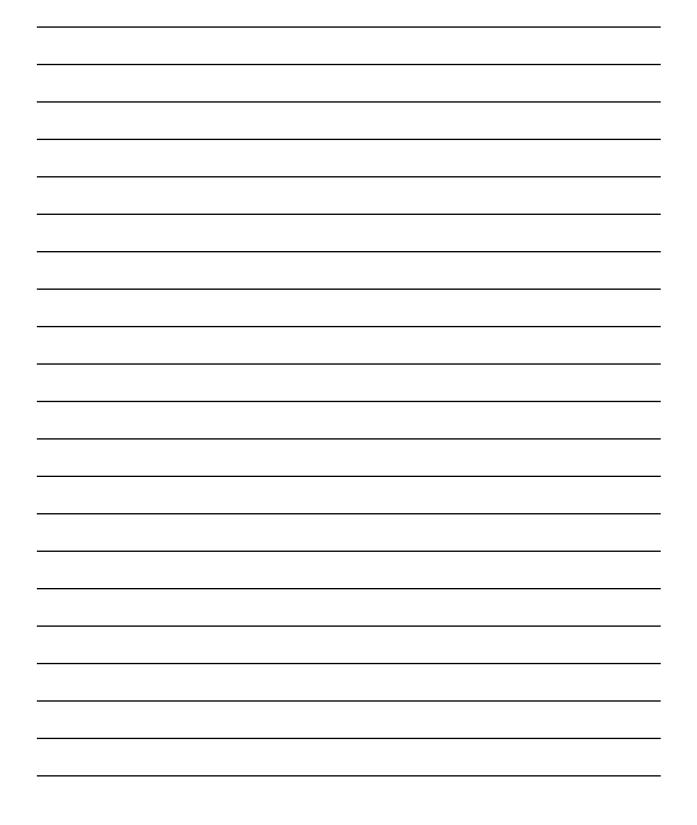
7. Will you handle all permits, or will I have to deal with the city? If so, what part?

8. How will you communicate and share progress with me during the renovation?

9. Can you show me similar projects to mine that you have completed in the past?

47 Contractor name:

Questions to Ask (Notes)



48 Contractor name:

Contractor check list

Were they licensed and insured?	Would you feel comfortable with them working in your home?
Did they show up on time? Yes No	Did they explain their process clearly?
Did they provide a clear project timeline? Yes No	Did they demonstrate professionalism and expertise?
Did they understand your project needs? Yes No	Were they transparent about costs and potential extras?
Did they answer all your questions? Yes No	Did they have positive references or reviews?
Did they offer new ideas? Yes No	Did they discuss potential challenges and solutions?
Were they pleasant to talk with?	Did they provide a reasonable start date and availability?