



Aging in Place Directory

Aging in Place Contractor Hiring Checklist

Questions Every Senior and Caregiver Should Ask Before Hiring

Section 1: Contractor Qualifications & Experience

- ✓ Do you have experience with aging-in-place or accessibility remodeling?
- ✓ Are you a Certified Aging-in-Place Specialist (CAPS)?
- ✓ How many aging-in-place projects have you completed?
- ✓ Can you show before-and-after photos of similar work?
- ✓ Do you understand mobility challenges (walkers, wheelchairs, balance issues)?
- ✓ Have you worked with older adults or caregivers before?

Section 2: Licensing, Insurance & Credentials

- ✓ Are you licensed to work in this state?
- ✓ Can you provide proof of liability insurance?
- ✓ Do you carry workers' compensation insurance?
- ✓ Will you obtain all required permits?
- ✓ Are you bonded (if applicable)?

Section 3: Safety Knowledge & Design Approach

- ✓ How will this project improve safety in my home?
- ✓ What fall risks do you see in my current layout?
- ✓ What safety features do you recommend and why?
- ✓ Do you follow universal design principles?
- ✓ Will the design support future mobility needs?
- ✓ How do you ensure proper installation of grab bars and supports?

Section 4: Project Planning & Customization

- ✓ Will you evaluate my current and future needs?
- ✓ Can you customize the design based on my lifestyle?
- ✓ Do you collaborate with occupational therapists if needed?
- ✓ What options do I have for different budgets?
- ✓ Will you provide a detailed written plan before starting?

Section 5: Timeline & Project Management

- ✓ What is the estimated start and completion date?
- ✓ How will delays be handled and communicated?
- ✓ Who will supervise the project on-site?
- ✓ Will subcontractors be used? If so, who are they?
- ✓ How will my home be protected during construction?

Section 6: Costs & Contracts

- ✓ Can you provide a detailed written estimate?
- ✓ What is included, and NOT included, in the price?
- ✓ What is the payment schedule?
- ✓ Are there potential additional costs I should expect?
- ✓ Do you offer a warranty on your work?
- ✓ Will I receive a written contract before work begins?

Section 7: Communication & Trust

- ✓ How will we communicate (phone, email, in-person)?
- ✓ How often will I receive updates?
- ✓ Who is my main point of contact?
- ✓ How do you handle concerns or complaints?
- ✓ Can you provide references from past clients?

Section 8: Aging-in-Place Features (Must Discuss)

- ✓ Will you recommend:
 - Grab bars (properly anchored)
 - Non-slip flooring
 - Zero-step or walk-in shower
 - Wider doorways (32–36 inches)
 - Lever-style handles
 - Improved lighting (motion sensors, brighter fixtures)
 - Stair safety solutions (railings, lifts if needed)
- ✓ Are these features installed to code and best practices?

Section 9: Red Flags to Watch For

- *Hesitates to answer questions
- *No experience with aging-in-place projects
- *No license or insurance
- *Vague or verbal-only estimates
- *Pushes unnecessary upgrades
- *Offers a price that seems “*too good to be true*”
- *Poor or no references

Section 10: Final Decision Checklist

Before hiring, make sure:

- ✓ I feel comfortable and heard
- ✓ The contractor understands my long-term needs
- ✓ Safety, not just appearance, is prioritized
- ✓ All details are clearly written and agreed upon
- ✓ I trust this person in my home

Optional: Notes Section

Add space like this at the end:

Contractor Name: _____

Company: _____

Phone/Email: _____

My Impressions:

Concerns:

Closing Thought

The right contractor doesn't just improve your home, they protect your independence, safety, and peace of mind.

Take your time. Ask these questions. Trust your instincts.