



Hiring A Contractor

- **Check with** your local government to see if contractors need to be registered in your area before performing work. ((Add language about obtaining permit for the work))
- **Check with** friends, family, and neighbors to see if they have any recommendations. Even if they suggest a company, **check into** the company before hiring.
- **Be sure to obtain** multiple written estimates for the project. Estimates should include details about work performed, products used and should also contain references for you to check. Make sure contractor you select provides you full information about their company including name, address, phone number.
- **Obtain multiple references on the companies you are considering.** Some questions to ask:
 - Did they start on time?
 - Was the job completed on time?
 - Did they communicate well throughout the project?
 - Did the price stay the same, or close, to the estimate?
 - Would you hire them again?
- **Search for complaints** about the company (BBB and Ohio Attorney General), confirm they are licensed and bonded if they claim to be (ask for proof), and search reviews of company.
- **Secure financing for your project before** signing with a contractor. Some contractors offer financing options that are not the best deal.

Have any questions or want to file a complaint?

Contact Consumer Affairs at cuyahogacounty.gov/consumeraffairs or call **216-443-7035**.