

## **Tips for Hiring a Plumbing/Gas Fitting Contractor:**

- Ask friends and family for recommendations.
- Research any potential contractors online for reviews of workmanship, pricing, etc. You can find reviews on many different websites.
- Contact several contractors and have each provide a written bid on the full project. Make sure each quote includes the removal of existing fixtures and a detailed description of the materials to be used.
- Inquire of the personnel that will be performing the work. Are they properly trained/certified?
- Check to see if licensing is required by your city, state, and county. Check to see if the contractor holds the required licenses.
- Verify that the company is insured against claims of workers' compensation, property damage, and personal liability should an accident occur.
- Check with the Better Business Bureau, State Attorney General's Office, and State Regulatory Boards to inquire about a complaint history pertaining to the contractor.
- Check for membership in trade organizations, such as the local Homebuilder Association or the National Association of Plumbing-Heating-Cooling Contractors. Companies who participate in these organizations tend to be more likely to keep up to date on new regulations and codes.
- Inquire how the contractor will price the job. Will they bill by the hour or will there be a flat rate for the job?
- Select a contractor based on price, experience, and your impression.
- Be cautious of paying with cash or paying for work/materials before job begins.
- Understand that the State of Alabama Plumbers and Gas Fitters Examining Board has in place a comprehensive and fair consumer complaint process.



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