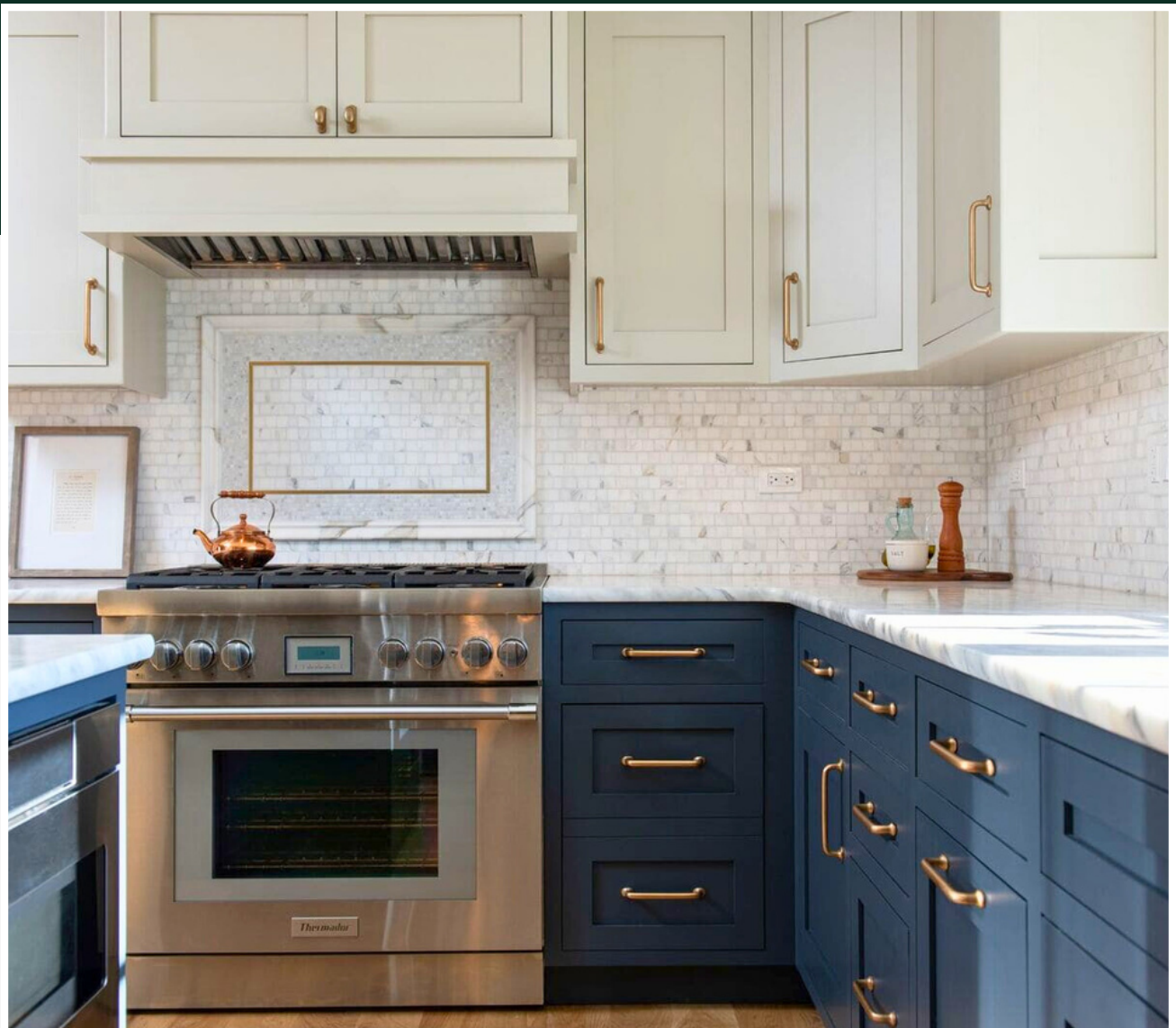


25 Essential Questions to Ask Before Hiring a General Contractor



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Question	Answer
How long have you been in business under the same name?	
Have you or any of the business's owners filed for bankruptcy for this or any other company you have owned?	
Are you a licensed general contractor for residential construction? Will you provide your license number?	
Do you maintain liability & workers' compensation insurance? Will you send proof of insurance?	
Can you provide a list of references, especially from a client with a similar type of project?	
What trade-related groups do you belong to?	
Do you provide a final lien waiver?	
Do you maintain good relationships with local & regional suppliers?	
Will the price you quote me be the price I pay?	
Will you provide, in writing, approximate start and completion dates for my project?	
Do you provide an easy-to-understand payment schedule based on project benchmarks?	
What percentage should I expect to pay upfront?	
Do you use project management software?	

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Question	Answer
Do you offer design services?	
Do you use 3D software to help homeowners visualize the project with full-color renderings?	
Do you employ a dedicated project manager for each home renovation project?	
Does the project manager make regular site visits to supervise the project and maintain quality control standards?	
What is your clean-up procedure?	
How do you ensure the safety of the construction site and protect the home?	
How do you vet your trade partners?	
Do you conduct weekly project meetings with each client?	
Do you have a strict written policy that prohibits smoking in my home and the use of drugs or alcohol by crews?	
Do you have a strict written policy that prohibits smoking in my home and the use of drugs or alcohol by crews?	
Do you provide a warranty on installation and workmanship? If yes, how long is it and what is included?	
Will you provide me with a comprehensive customer satisfaction survey after my project?	