

## Choosing a Reputable Builder



Asprea would like to help you find a suitable and reputable builder to repair your property, the advice and guidance below should help you choose.

For reassurance, use reputable trade organisations such as:

- Federation of Master Builders (FMB)  
[www.fmb.org.uk](http://www.fmb.org.uk)
- National Federation of Builders (NFB)  
[www.builders.org.uk](http://www.builders.org.uk)
- Chartered Institute of Builders (CIOB)  
[www.cbcscheme.org.uk](http://www.cbcscheme.org.uk)
- National Federation of Roofing Contractors (NFRC)  
[www.nfrc.co.uk](http://www.nfrc.co.uk)

The government supported website Trustmark [www.trustmark.org.uk](http://www.trustmark.org.uk) and some local councils or trading standards can also provide details of reputable builders.

Compare estimates (3 if possible), ensure all the work is included and agree how unforeseen work (labour & material costs) will be charged.

Check references, make sure they are up to date and relevant to the type of work required. Where possible, go and view some of their previous work.

For your protection, ask to see a copy of the builder's up-to-date Public Liability and Employers Liability insurance certificates.

Ask for a written agreement detailing the works as well as start and finish dates. Record any changes in writing.

Agree the payment plan upfront and be wary of builders who insist on full payment before the work is completed. On occasion, it may be necessary to pay for some materials during the course of the work.

**Finally, and most importantly, try to seek recommendations from friends and family.**

