

Licensed, Bonded and Insured

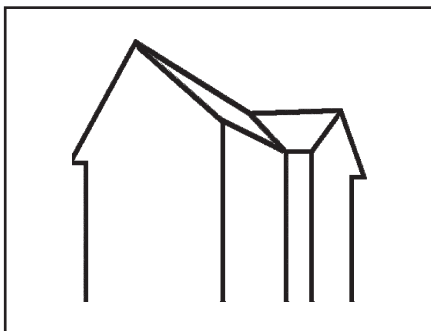
The process of soliciting bids, evaluating a proposal and selecting a contractor can be a complicated process. This month I am providing some dialog to help explain the terms "Licensed, Bonded and Insured"...

Licensed:

- In the state of Indiana, licensing is required for the Plumbing and Electrical Trades but not for General Contracting.
- If you hire a General Contractor, ask if their subcontractors are all properly licensed.
- Do not confuse "licensed" with "qualified".
- If you have questions ask to see a copy of the Indiana State License.
- Ask to see previous work to determine level of qualification.
- A reference from a previous customer is a great way to determine past project client satisfaction.

Bonded:

- If a contractor is bonded, it means measures have been taken to ensure the client has protection if the job is NOT completed or does not meet agreed-to standards.
- The customer should ask for a copy of the Contractors bond before contracts are signed.
- This is especially important on larger projects.



Insured:

- Contractors should carry general liability insurance.
- All subcontractors should be insured.
- The customer should ask for a copy of the Contractors insurance before contracts are signed.

The selection of a good local contractor is key when planning and delivering a successful project of any size or type, a good contractor should always have the customers ultimate satisfaction in mind. Relationship and trust are key, always take your time to select the right contractor before you begin your next project. Finally, remember lowest bid does not always mean best project.

Have a great holiday season and hope this months tips are helpful, please do not hesitate to call if you have any questions. *TsT*

TsT Home Improvement Services LLC

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317-550-8677

Plainfield, IN • email: thomas_truesdale@yahoo.com
website: tsthhomeimprovement.com

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