



**Heating &
Air Conditioning**

5 Things You Must Know Before You Hire a Contractor

With hundreds of heating and air conditioning contractors available how do you find the best one for your home? Whether you're interested in new equipment or quality service the following tips will help you to narrow down the field and get the best results.

- 1.** In order to protect consumers and ensure high standards of quality contractors in Ontario are required to carry mandatory licenses. Check to see if the contractor possesses all the appropriate licensing for installing HVAC equipment: gas license, refrigeration license, metro license, TSSA contractor registration, design license, and others.
- 2.** Make sure the contractor is established and offers a full range of services. Ask how long they have been in business, longer is usually better. Check if they offer 24 hour service, you never know when you may need a repair. See if they offer financing options to help you tailor your purchase to your budget. Always ask for, and check references.
- 3.** When you call for a contractor be sure you're "talking to the boss." Any quality contractor realizes you're trying to make a major purchasing decision and should be happy to offer you free advice. You'll be pointed in the right direction and learn what you need to know about any specific questions - without obligation.
- 4.** An experienced contractor who has your best interests in mind will ask about your experience in the house: how long you have lived there, how long you plan to stay, if you have pets, if anyone has allergies, or if there are smokers. You should also be asked about hot and cold spots in your house. In addition a reputable contractor should look at the orientation of the house, size of the windows and re-evaluate the size of your current equipment. Proper sizing ensures comfort of your home.
- 5.** It takes more time to complete an installation when done correctly. The last thing you want in your home is a substandard installation. You can also expect to pay more for comprehensive service, but much less on the long run for system's performance and maintenance.

I hope you've found the above helpful. To discuss your heating, air conditioning, and indoor air quality needs please contact me, Mario Myrone, at Nordicaire. 1-416-321-1236.

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