

Hiring A Contractor

Signing A Contract

Hiring a contractor is not a one way street. Contracts for home retrofit projects are made for both you and your contractor. Meaning, you must ensure to add or amend any details to the contract that are important to you before final sign off. For example, including a timeline, working hours and compensation in your contract will help manage your expectations while better understanding the project(s).

Managing Your Renovation

- Setting up a meeting schedule and having contractors understand that they are fully accountable for successes as well as failures is important for a healthy relationship.
- Weekly performance evaluations will allow you to actively be part of the management process. Sitting down to review the performance will also allow you to examine what is being followed and what needs improvement.
- See their previous work. Although time consuming, visiting referral customers and ensuring the work meets your standards might be the most important step when hiring a contractor.



First Step

We highly recommend hiring a contractor for your retrofits as it is a requirement for most of the eligible upgrades through the grants available. It is also important to familiarize yourself with local bylaws and provincial/federal regulations to ensure compliance.

Quick Tips

- Sign a contract at home
- Do not hire a door-to-door salesperson/contractor
- Do not make large down payments
- Avoid cash deals (receipts!)
- Ensure you have all the right paperwork (contracts, licenses, permits, estimates, references)

Resources

[NRCAN: Hiring A Contractor](#)

[CMHC: Hiring a Contractor](#)

[CHBA: Contracts](#)