

# HOW TO CHOOSE A PAINTING CONTRACTOR

Seek a professional that delivers quality, safety and accountability



# PAIN T MATTERS— SO DOES YOUR CONTRACTOR

**A good painting contractor brings quality, safety and accountability to every project.**

**This guide provides tips on how to confidently choose a contractor that transforms your space while protecting your property and your investment.**

## **What to look for**

A fresh coat of paint can transform your walls, but only when it's done right. Here's what you should expect from your contractor:

- :: Expert surface prep
- :: Coatings knowledge
- :: Meticulous site management and cleanup
- :: Strict safety protocols
- :: Insurance coverage in case of an accident



# 10 STEPS TO CHOOSE A PAINTING CONTRACTOR

## STEP 1: Set goals

Write a description of your project. Be as specific as possible, and note your paint colors, gloss levels, and target project completion date.

## STEP 2: Ask around

Talk to people you trust and get recommendations. Your local Dunn-Edwards store is a great place to start!

## STEP 3: Get references

Contact painters and request at least three references from each, with photos if possible. When you evaluate references, consider the following:

- :: Was the job completed on time?
- :: Were they satisfied with the results?
- :: Did the final cost match the quote?
- :: Was the painter's work unnecessarily disruptive?
- :: Would they hire the painter again?

## STEP 4: Ask for quotes

Invite your top three contenders to visit and provide a quote. Give them your list of goals, and ask them to include these details on the quote:

- :: Painter's contact information
- :: Your contact information
- :: Description of the project, including all areas to be prepped and painted
- :: Coatings (including brand names), colors and sheens to be used in each area
- :: Completion date
- :: Breakdown of materials and labor costs
- :: Total project cost
- :: Painter's signature and quote date
- :: Certificate of insurance

## STEP 5: Watch and listen

Pay attention to each painter's presentation. Are they polite, professional and dressed appropriately? Did they send a quote in a reasonable time frame?

## STEP 6: Ensure they're insured

Painting can be hazardous work. To make sure you are not held responsible for job-related injuries or damage to your property, review the painters' certificates of insurance carefully to be sure their coverage is current.

## STEP 7: Verify licensing

Some cities and states require painters to prove competency and safety knowledge. Ask candidates for proof of licensing if it is required in your area.

## STEP 8: Sign the contract

Once you've selected a painting contractor, make sure you both sign a contract. It should include all of the details from the quote plus payment terms.

## STEP 9: Pay your painter

To protect yourself and ensure that the project is done to your satisfaction, follow these payment tips:

- :: Never pay cash
- :: Never pay the entire cost of the project upfront
- :: Keep all payment records
- :: Only make your final payment once you are completely satisfied with the work done

## STEP 10: Reward good work

If you're happy with the painter you chose, give them a shout-out on Google reviews, Yelp, social media, the painter's website, or old-fashioned word of mouth.

# PROTECT WHAT MATTERS

The success of your projects depends on the performance and durability of the products you use. Safeguard your work with coatings engineered to last. You'll be doing your part to protect the planet, too. Made in the USA from domestic and imported ingredients in the world's first and only LEED® Gold-certified paint manufacturing facility, Dunn-Edwards products meet or exceed most environmental standards.



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