

Homeowners Guide

What You Need to Know Before Hiring A Roofing Contractor

(especially after a storm)



Texas Star Roofing

Homeowners Guide: What You Need To Know Before Hiring A Roofing Contractor *(Especially After A Storm)*

Table of Contents:

A brief description of roofing choices	3
Details on the Top 5 Roofing Choices	10
What Makes Texas Star Roofing Unique?	16
The Questions a Homeowner Should Ask Before Hiring Any Roofing Contractor	21

Homeowners Guide: What You Need To Know Before Hiring A Roofing Contractor (*Especially After A Storm*)

A brief description of roofing choices

Roofing is one of the most important investments you can make. Improper, aged or substandard roofing can lead to a host of other more expensive problems. If you are selling your property, a well-chosen roof can yield up to 75 percent of a return on your investment.

The question is, what roofing to pick? There are so many options on the market. This e-book is designed to inform you on a variety of roofing types for both commercial and residential buildings. We will be reviewing natural, asphalt, composite, metal and commercial roofing options. Armed with basic knowledge of what is available, you will be ready to narrow your search for the perfect roof.

Natural Roofing Products

The most beautiful, long lasting, and costly roofing options on the market are naturally derived. Most other roofing options work toward imitating the following natural options:

- ***Wood shingles***

Wood shingles can be comprised of many kinds of wood. However, hard woods such as redwood or cedar tend to have longer lifetimes. A quality hardwood roof can last up to 50 years. Many of the municipalities in the Dallas, Fort Worth area have outlawed the use of wood shingles due to fire hazard. Even if you currently have wood shingles installed on your roof, check with your city government offices to see if you will be able to proceed with a new installation.

Homeowners Guide: What You Need To Know Before Hiring A Roofing Contractor (*Especially After A Storm*)

● ***Slate Shingles***

If you are considering an American made product, slate is an excellent option. It is quarried in the Northeastern United States and easily lasts up to 50 years. It has become popular for its earthy, yet refined, appearance. Slate is the most expensive roofing option on the market, however the value it can add to your home, its durability, and longevity make it cost efficient in the long run.

● ***Tile***

Tile shingles are an exotic ode to Spanish architecture. They are generally comprised of whatever natural materials are in the immediate area. Thus, you can find slate, clay or any such variety of tiles on the market. With the exception of copper, tile is the most durable natural roofing option available, having a lifespan of up to 80 years.

● ***Rubber Roofing***

Rubber roofing can be quite beautiful. It is the least expensive of natural roofing options, and it is environmentally friendly. Rubber roofing is made from recycled tires, slate dust, and saw dust. With a lifespan of 75 years or longer, it rivals tile in longevity. Generally, rubber roofing comes with a 30-year guarantee, meaning it should need no shingle replacement for that timeframe. It is also common for rubber roofing to carry a lifetime warranty.

Homeowners Guide: What You Need To Know Before Hiring A Roofing Contractor (*Especially After A Storm*)

Low Cost, High Quality Faux Roofing Options

Cost, durability and functionality can play a major role in your roofing choice. While the look of high-end natural roofing styles are nice, you need to be prepared for initial cost and upkeep. However, if you wish to have the look without the fuss you might consider one of the following options:

- ***Asphalt Roofing***

Asphalt roofing shingles are a widely used and trusted option. They are fairly inexpensive and have a clean uniform appearance. Asphalt roofing is composed entirely of glass fiber mats that are saturated with asphalt and covered in granules. They tend to be lightweight and relatively durable.

- ***Architectural or Laminated Roofing***

Architectural roofing is an asphalt type roofing ideal for homeowners, and commercial property owners, who would like one of the highest quality faux roofing options available. In the roofing world, they are where function meets style. Startling three-dimensional designs place architectural roofing in the realm of functional art.

Practical manufacturing processes have birthed varieties that resist mold and algae growth, insulate and deflect light. Be it the look of wood, tile or slate, architectural roofing has a host of varieties that can meet your needs at a practical cost. It is worth noting, architectural roofing shingles and traditional asphalt share many qualities in common. Perhaps the largest variance is that traditional asphalt shingles lack the extreme visual impact of their high tech counterpart.

Homeowners Guide: What You Need To Know Before Hiring A Roofing Contractor (*Especially After A Storm*)

● **Composite Roofing**

Composite roofing is comprised from recycled rubber, plastic or a combination of the two. Composites are far more durable than asphalt based shingles. Warranties on composites can reach up to 50 years.

Composite roofing is stunning and cost efficient. Once installed, it is also virtually indistinguishable from the real thing. There is a huge market for composites, as such, the options range from LEED recognized brands, to 'class A' fire resistant composites with a 'class 4' impact resistance rating.

● **Metal Roofing**

Metal roofing is a broad term that covers the styles and materials one can choose from when outfitting your roof with metal. We have come a long way with metal roofing design; there are various styles of metal roofing now available:

- Vertical Panels or Standing Seam
- Metal Shake
- Metal Tile
- Metal Shingle/Slate

Metal roofing can be found in a relatively diverse number of metals. There are older options, well known from childhood stories, like tin and newer options such as aluminum and lead. However the two most commonly used on commercial and residential properties are copper and steel.

Homeowners Guide: What You Need To Know Before Hiring A Roofing Contractor (*Especially After A Storm*)

● **Copper Roofing**

Copper roofing is one of the oldest and most beautiful roofing options available. While the initial cost is considerable, the lifetime cost of copper roofing makes it far less expensive than almost every other roofing option. Copper roofs are literally known to last centuries with proper care. It is highly resistant to the elements and never needs to be painted or finished. Copper roofing also improves with age, the shiny warm color of new copper weathers out into a rich bronze as time passes. Copper is a relatively easy material to work with, so if your property has unique roofing angles, domes, turrets or gables do not shy away. Beauty, practicality, durability and traditional luxury, embodied, are copper roofing.

● **Steel**

Steel roofing options can be broken down into 3 main categories:

- 1) Corrugated galvanized steel is little more than raw wrought iron steel coated with zinc. It is generally used in corrugated sheets and is one of the most common metal roofing types available.
- 2) Stainless steel is often chosen for its aesthetics. However, it serves a more functional purpose since it is well suited for harsher climates. It is most commonly available in seam profiles, but shingles are another, more decorative, option.
- 3) Stone coated steel was originally designed in World War II for use in reconstructing damaged buildings and increasing their safety.

Homeowners Guide: What You Need To Know Before Hiring A Roofing Contractor (*Especially After A Storm*)

It has a beautiful ceramic appearance and is created by using an emulsion coating of zinc and aluminum bound stone granules coated with an acrylic gel overlay. The coating is virtually impossible to remove and is extremely durable.

Metal roofs are making a major comeback because they are considered environmentally friendly. Most metal roofing carries a 'class A' fire rating and 'class 4' impact rating. Another bonus is they have an extremely long lifespan and, depending on the metal, require little upkeep. The choice of a metal roof for your home or business is an excellent investment. It can differentiate your property from the pack.

Commercial and Heavy Duty Roofing

Sometimes jobs call for a no frills, no nonsense approach. The following roofing options are relatively easy to install, are durable, and economical. While some are used mainly in commercial roofing, their use can be translated into a variety of other roofing projects:

- ***Corrugated Roofing***

Corrugated roofing is a highly diverse and economical choice for a variety of projects. Commercial establishments, such as warehouses, storage facilities, garages, and other structures, such as sheds, that need durable roofing at nominal cost are all prime corrugated roofing candidates. A lesser-known, but highly useful, way to use corrugated roofing is as a skylight; since one of the options available is a clear plastic, it makes an effective and inexpensive alternative to glass. Corrugated roofing is available in both metal and plastic and can come in a variety of painted colors. It ranges from opaque to translucent or clear.

Homeowners Guide: What You Need To Know Before Hiring A Roofing Contractor (*Especially After A Storm*)

One of the more utilitarian roofing options, corrugated roofing is relatively tough, easy to install, and is a solid choice for any practical roofing job.

● **EPDM**

EDPM is one of the most durable roofing options available on the market. Comprised of ethylene and propylene, it is made to simulate rubber. Among modern roofing options, it lasts far longer than its competitors. EDPM is resistant to weathering, hail, low temperatures, thermal shock, ultraviolet radiation, fire and even hurricane force winds. It definitely pays for itself over time, and should be on any businesses short list when considering commercial roofing.

● **PVC Plastic Roofing and Thermoplastic Polyolefin**

PVC roofing is gaining notoriety and the industry demand for it is growing rapidly. It is beneficial because it is durable, easy to install and relatively inexpensive.

Some thermoplastic polyolefin, or TPO, membrane roofing, options have polyester reinforcement. Light reflective technology and other upgrades enhance their value and utility as well. PVC roofing is an alternative option to EPDM as it shares many of the same aspects of durability.

As you can see, there are a substantial variety of roofing options on the market. Here we provided you with basic foundational information, but you should always consult a roofing specialist before making your final decision. If you have any questions on what roofing type will best suit your needs, and your budget, contact us today. We are always happy to answer any questions you may have and can arrange for one of our consultants to visit your property for a personalized assessment.

Homeowners Guide: What You Need To Know Before Hiring A Roofing Contractor (*Especially After A Storm*)

A Detailed Description of the Top 5 Roofing Choices

While there are a variety of roofing options on the market, there are a few which are preferred among the rest. Today's trends lean toward natural motifs, modern dramatic lines, and high quality sustainable synthetics. When considering roofing options for your home, it is a good idea to look at the forerunners side by side and assess the pros and cons of each.

Roofing is one of the most important aspects of your home; it serves a utilitarian function before anything else. Ideally you will find materials that provide the perfect combination of aesthetics and functionality.

This e-book was written to introduce you to the most commonly used roofing materials. After reading it, you should have an idea of the strengths, weaknesses and commonalities of each choice. In this section we will be looking at the top five most utilized residential roofing materials on the market.

You may find that your first choice is no longer what you thought it would be, or that you were on the right track all along. You should also garner a better idea of what questions you may need to ask before installation begins.

Homeowners Guide: What You Need To Know Before Hiring A Roofing Contractor (*Especially After A Storm*)

● ***Composition Shingles***

Composition roof shingles are the most widely used roofing choice in residential roofing. They are available in a variety of colors and are suitable for an array of roof designs. Some varieties of composition shingles can be made to resemble metal, slate, tile and wood. The cost of designer composition roofing materials, such as Architectural Fiberglass Shingles, is nominal when compared to the natural roofing materials they mimic. However, the most cost effective varieties are the plain fiberglass-based shingles with clean lines.

Composition shingles are asphalt based. Their installation is relatively easy and they require little upkeep. They are fire resistant as well. It is worth noting, in humid climates, they can become prone to mildew and moss. Some manufactures use a treatment to reduce the occurrence of organic growth. Although they do have a slight vulnerability to wind and ice, they are inexpensive and easy to repair.

With the exception of rubber or plastic composites, whenever you chose a faux roofing option, composition shingles, of some variety, are most likely the option you will encounter. They come under a variety of names and appearances. Laminate, composite, dimensional and architectural are just a few terms you may hear. The key is, if they are asphalt based, then they are most likely in the composition shingle family.

● ***Architectural Fiberglass Shingles***

Architectural fiberglass shingles are a modern take on traditional fiberglass asphalt shingles. You may hear them referred to as laminated, 3D or dimensional shingles as well. The shingles are chameleonic in nature, designed to mimic a variety of natural roofing options such as tile, slate and wood.

Homeowners Guide: What You Need To Know Before Hiring A Roofing Contractor *(Especially After A Storm)*

When compared to traditional asphalt shingles, architectural shingles are three times thicker. They have a tri-layered composition of a traditional asphalt fiberglass blend, with a top layer of mineral granules covered in ceramic to provide texture and depth. They are designed to increase the appearance of shadows and lines; a dramatic three-dimensional appearance is achieved once they are installed.

Most architectural shingles are lightweight, eliminating the need for additional structural support. However, varieties with a higher wind resistance can be more substantial. Their installation difficulty is generally in par with traditional asphalt shingles, save the time to afford design decisions. Homes with Victorian style roofs, gables, steep roof planes, and turrets are all prime candidates for architectural shingles.

When picking architectural shingles, the options tend to look similar on the surface. However, seemingly small variations can mean a large difference in the strength and longevity of your roof. For example, architectural shingles can come with one, two, or three points of adhesive contact. Choosing shingles with more points of adhesion adds extra strength to your roofing system. Although you will not be able to see it once your roof is installed, the additional price for the added security is well worth it.

Advancements in architectural roofing are constantly leaping forward; each generation provides more value to homeowners than the last. For example, some varieties boast a zinc coating that can aid in combating mold or algae growth. Others provide light deflection or additional insulation. The variety you choose should be based on your homes needs and local environmental factors.

Homeowners Guide: What You Need To Know Before Hiring A Roofing Contractor (*Especially After A Storm*)

● ***Composite Slate***

Synthetic slate costs about a third of natural slate. It is far more lightweight, which makes it an excellent option for homeowners who would like real slate but do not have home structures that can support the weight. It is comprised from recycled rubber, plastic or a combination of the two. Although natural slate can last a lifetime, composite slate is only guaranteed for 50 years, making it comparable to natural wood in longevity.

Faux slate is nearly indistinguishable from the real thing once installed. Real slate is thick, but brittle. On the opposite end, faux slate is difficult to damage, even when cold. It is also extremely fire resistant. Perhaps best of all is that composite slate offers a divergence from traditional asphalt shingles. A sound piece of advise, when picking composite slate, choose products that have thickness, durability and extensive warranties.

● ***Standing Seam Metal Roofing***

Standing seam metal roofing was once isolated to use on commercial buildings. Although homeowners liked the look, it simply was not attainable. Now the option to outfit your roof with a standing seam design is within reach. There are a host of varieties to choose from.

As far as functionality, it is actually the, visually stunning, standing seam aspect of the roofing materials that is its strongest asset. The weakest points of any roof are the areas where the materials join. It is at those points that water tends to infiltrate the roof. With standing seam roofs those areas are raised, providing another layer of protection. Another benefit to improve water resistance is that there are no horizontal seams.

Homeowners Guide: What You Need To Know Before Hiring A Roofing Contractor (*Especially After A Storm*)

While standing seam metal roofing comes with a higher cost initially, its increased durability, lessened need for upkeep, and lifespan makes it less expensive in the long run. It is worth noting, roofs with a pitch of lower than 2:12 are not suitable for standing seam roofing. Consulting with a professional contractor is key.

● ***Stone Coated Steel Metal Roofs***

Stone coated steel is created by a combination of zinc and aluminum bound stone chips coated with an acrylic gel overlay. The combination provides the effect of natural stone. It was initially developed in World War II to rebuild and reinforce damaged buildings, as well as to withstand harsh climates, so by nature it is durable. It is also rust resistant, provides noise insulation, and is lightweight.

Most quality varieties are guaranteed to never split or crack. There are even models rated to withstand winds upwards of 120 miles per hour, a beneficial bonus considering Texas weather. Stone coated steel is an excellent choice for persons who wish to have a modern look that is more natural and earthy than regular steel. Another bonus is that there are more color varieties available with stone coated steel than with its plain metal counterparts.

A great deal more than appearance comes into play when you are considering a roofing option for your home. Factors such as weight limitations, environmental resistance, and your roofing style can affect what you can and should choose. It is important to consult a roofing specialist that is knowledgeable about all the roofing options available, their strengths, and limitations.

Homeowners Guide: What You Need To Know Before Hiring A Roofing Contractor *(Especially After A Storm)*

An improper installation or roofing materials choice can end up costing thousands, to tens of thousands of dollars in replacement and repair costs in the future. You will need a contractor you can trust.

Texas Star Roofing has been applying roofing systems in the area since 1997. We can provide you with the benefit of our extensive knowledge in the field, so that you pick the best roofing option for your home.

We are certified with the Roofing Contractors Association of Texas and are members of the North Texas Roofing Contractors Association as well.

Our team is happy to answer any questions you may have. We welcome you to contact us so that we can provide you with a personalized assessment. Ultimately, you want to end up with a beautiful roof that will hold up for decades to come.

We hope that you will allow us, at Texas Star Roofing, to partner with you in your next roofing replacement or repair.

Homeowners Guide: What You Need To Know Before Hiring A Roofing Contractor *(Especially After A Storm)*

What Makes Texas Star Roofing Unique

Texas is a beautiful and untamed environment. Though we build our homes, schools and businesses here, we are at the mercy of the elements and a diverse landscape of climates. Year to year, our buildings and properties take a beating. Without proper maintenance, replacement and repair it can become a costly battle.

In a home or commercial building, the first line of defense is the roof. It is your property's main protector from the elements. Depending on where your property is, hurricane force winds, hail, heavy rain, extreme heat, snow, or a number of other natural forces can degrade and challenge the integrity of your roofing system. Left unchecked, minor damage can quickly turn into serious, extensive and expensive repairs.

Perhaps that is why there are so many roofing contractors in Texas. They see an opportunity for profit. However, while there are several reputable companies around, there is also that old saying, 'where carcasses are found, vultures abound'. Property owners, who are looking for a quick and inexpensive fix to their roofing problems, can find themselves prey to less than professional bidders.

Roofing Outlaws

Naturally, once you resolve to finally address your old, leaky or storm-damaged roof, your first consideration becomes cost. Thereafter, you start thinking about aesthetics. Many contractors will come to you as more of a soundboard than a professional educated voice. They may take your desires and execute them, but you may find later that the choice you made was not in the best interest of your needs.

Homeowners Guide: What You Need To Know Before Hiring A Roofing Contractor (*Especially After A Storm*)

Sometimes, you may find that the lowest bidder does a job that looks great; but at the first harsh wind, you have shingles and underlayment lifting and blowing everywhere.

So, how can this be? The reality is, Texas roofing contractors do not need to be licensed. Unless you get a direct referral, sometimes all you have to go on are your gut instinct, their bid, and whatever you can find out about the company.

How Far Will "Out Of Towners" Go To Appear Local?

- Get a cell number with a local area code
- Change license plates to Texas plates
- Get an address at a FedEx or UPS store that is a street address with a suite # instead of using a P.O. Box
- Websites updated to include a local address & phone #

The point is, some contractors go to great length to position themselves as local and we've seen many consumers being deceived by these practices.

Certified, Award Winning Service

We at Texas Star Roofing aim to provide a better way; we are a certified and award winning roofing contractor. We would like to build a relationship with you based on mutual respect and trust. Our success in the business, since 1997, is the foundation we stand on. Our extensive clientele list is the professional family we have built.

The Roofing Contractors Association of Texas, RCAT, has set forth a certification program for contractors in the state of Texas.

Homeowners Guide: What You Need To Know Before Hiring A Roofing Contractor (*Especially After A Storm*)

It includes requirements contractors must meet and follow to hold a certification in good standing:

- Testing
- Continuing education
- Maintenance of insurance
- Operational existence minimums
- Maintenance of a business location (rather than a P.O. Box or vehicle)

In short, their certification requires all the things you would expect a licensed contractor to do and be. Texas Star Roofing holds certification number 184, through RCAT, for both residential and commercial roofing. We are also members of the North Texas Roofing Contractors Association and hold an A+ rating with the Better Business Bureau.

Owens Corning, known for its highly restrictive approval criteria, has named Texas Star Roofing as a preferred contractor.

In addition, we are Master Shingle Applicators for one of the premiere roofing developers in the nation, Certain Teed.

Angie's List has recognized our company since 2004 and we have had the continuous standing as a Super Service Award recipient for the past five years.

Fully Insured and Professionally Installed Roofing

Texas Star Roofing is fully insured. Our team of professional roofing installers makes every effort to ensure your experience with Texas Star Roofing a pleasurable one. When we set timeframes for repairs or roofing replacement we aim to meet those deadlines. If ever anything seems to need additional attention, we communicate that clearly and honestly to our customers.

Homeowners Guide: What You Need To Know Before Hiring A Roofing Contractor *(Especially After A Storm)*

We realize roofing repairs can be invasive on your privacy. Our team is always considerate of our clients and their neighbors. We make every attempt to keep worksites free of debris and hazards, and schedule work during hours that are reasonable for your property's neighborhood and environment.

An Educated Voice

One of our major desires is to assure your satisfaction. However, we realize you have come to us because you desire a professional voice. As such, we will listen to your desires and ultimate roofing goals.

Whenever we can, we will advise and assist you in making the most sound choices to meet your goals.

Whatever your budget or design desires, Texas Star Roofing's consultant will make every attempt to make it a reality. To us, a job well done is one that leaves you with a beautiful roof that is also functional and able to last to its maximum potential. Merging your vision with what your home needs is our specialty.

Texas Star Roofing's Service Areas

Texas Star Roofing has an extensive service area that includes the following cities and counties:

Lewisville, Flower Mound, Denton County, Plano, Allen, McKinney, Frisco, Richardson, Carrollton, Garland, Dallas, Parker, The Colony, Murphy, Wylie, Sachse, Lucas, Prosper, Highland Village, Coppell, Irving, University Park, Highland Park, Rockwall, Rowlett, Mesquite, Sunnyvale, Colleyville, Southlake Dallas County, Collin County, Rockwall County, Celina, Hebron and Addison.

Homeowners Guide: What You Need To Know Before Hiring A Roofing Contractor *(Especially After A Storm)*

Family Owned and Operated

For us, business is a labor of love. We are a family owned and operated company. Our goal is not just to be profitable; rather we take true joy in providing a well-executed and useful service. We consider our integrity something that cannot be compromised, and treat each customer with the respect and consideration we would wish to have ourselves.

Texas Star Roofing is here to assist you. Perhaps it is time to move forward with the roofing plans you have been contemplating. Feel free to contact our office today so that we may provide you with a personalized consultation. We look forward to making you our next satisfied customer.

Homeowners Guide: What You Need To Know Before Hiring A Roofing Contractor *(Especially After A Storm)*

The Questions a Homeowner Should Ask Before Hiring Any Roofing Contractor

Your home or business is a valuable asset. A great deal of time, love and money are invested in it. It is important that whenever you choose to have work done on your property, you acquire the best professionals available. You want the persons contracted to improve your property to be capable of executing the job correctly, swiftly and efficiently.

Since there are no licensing laws for roofing contractors in Texas, it will take initiative on your part to weed out undesirable candidates. There are some key questions you can ask any contractor wishing to submit a bid to you. These questions are the first step to ensuring you do not end up with a roofing nightmare.

Our intent is to arm you with the skills to properly assess and select a roofing contractor. The questions in it are based on the recommendations posed by the North Texas Roofing Contractors Association (NRCTA) of which we are long-standing members and shares its vision to supply consumers' access to reputable roofing contractors within Texas.

Key Questions:

1. Are you registered with and in good standing with the Better Business Bureau? If so, what is your rating?

Posing this question directly to your contractor will give you a chance to let them know you will be checking their credentials.

A homeowner who will dig into their history may intimidate a faulty contractor.

Homeowners Guide: What You Need To Know Before Hiring A Roofing Contractor (*Especially After A Storm*)

After this question is answered, you would do well to check the status of the contractor's standing with the BBB yourself.

Texas Star Roofing is an accredited; A+ rated business by the Dallas Better Business Bureau and have been a member since 2000.

2. Are you a member of a recognized local or national roofing association?

Associations such as the Midwest, National or North Texas Roofing Association are designed to provide consumers with reputable entities that represent a pool of responsible professional contractors. As a person seeking roofing repair or replacement, you should utilize those sources to gain further assurance of your potential contractor's reputation.

Texas Star Roofing is a member of North Texas Roofing Contractors Association (NTRCA), the premier resource for roofing contractors and associates working and doing business in North Texas.

We are also certified roofing contractor #184 of the Roofing Contractors Association of Texas (RCAT), a statewide trade association of roofing and waterproofing contractors. This group of professionals collectively represents the voice of the roofing and waterproofing industry in Texas.

3. Is your company based in Texas? If so, how many years have you been operating here? Where is your company's office?

Established professional contractors will have an office location. Often, especially after storm season, waves of out of out of state contractors show up to cash in on the destruction.

Homeowners Guide: What You Need To Know Before Hiring A Roofing Contractor (*Especially After A Storm*)

Once they have collected a few contracts they leave the state, never to be seen again. That leaves property owners in a position of having no local point of contact for any issues that may arise. Worse, in the event of a faulty job, recourse is hard to achieve.

Texas Star Roofing lives and works in Texas. We have been in business since 1997, and own our offices in Plano. We're a permanent part of the community and invite you to stop in, say hi and get to know us as a trusted partner in resolving your roofing issues. We believe that you should have a 'real' place to go if you have any questions or concerns.

4. Are you insured? If so, what type of insurance do you have, and what does it cover? May I see your certificate of insurance?

This point is perhaps one of the most important ones to be assured of. In Texas, your roofing contractor does not have to be insured. However it is a liability for you if they are not. Rather than risk any unnecessary liability, it is better to limit yourself to contractors with verifiable insurance information.

Texas Star Roofing carries appropriate insurance to protect you. To us it wouldn't make sense to do what we do and not be insured.

5. Who will be the site and project supervisor/s? May I have their name and contact info?

Having supervisor contacts is a must. This question works in a twofold manner by helping you establish how professionally your contractor's team is organized. Lack of organization can be a red flag.

Homeowners Guide: What You Need To Know Before Hiring A Roofing Contractor (Especially After A Storm)

Texas Star Roofing is family owned and operated. One of the principals of the company will be nearby on every project we do. If you need one of us to answer your question and we're not actually on-site already, we're just a phone call away.

6. What warranties do you provide on labor? What warranties come with my roofing materials? May I have copies of all warranties in writing?

Manufacturer warranty information is one thing; but when labor warranties come into play, questions two, three and five should be your guides as to if that warranty will be worth anything.

7. Do you have credit references? May I have a list of local suppliers you utilize?

This question often surprises property owners. However, if you do not want to end up in a sticky situation where you are footing the bill for supplies twice, it is worth asking. Make sure your contractor has a history of honoring payment of supply costs.

Texas Star Roofing is financially strong. If you want to speak to any of my suppliers before entrusting us with your project, I'll make it easy for you to do so.

8. Do you have references from other property owners? May I have their contact information?

As mentioned earlier, Texas Star Roofing is an accredited, A+ rated member of the Dallas Better Business Bureau. Further, we invite you to check our rating with Angie's List and the Roofing Contractors Association of Texas (RCAT).

Homeowners Guide: What You Need To Know Before Hiring A Roofing Contractor (*Especially After A Storm*)
Our site lists numerous testimonials too. If you'd like to speak with some of our very satisfied clients, we'll gladly provide them and invite you to verify the references we give you.

9. Will you be obtaining a permit before beginning to work on my roof?

It you want us to, we will. However you should know that some municipalities would use your new roof as a reason to raise your taxes. We'll defer to you on whether this is acceptable to you or not. It's important to know that Texas Star Roofing follows all local codes in the work we do.

10. Are you certified to install any particular roofing systems?

Texas Star Roofing is an Owens Corning Preferred Contractor as well as a CertainTeed Master Shingle Applicator™.

11. Are you licensed?

Texas does not require roofing contractors to be licensed. If your contractor answers yes to this question, ask to view the license and then verify its validity with the issuing agency.

Texas Star Roofing is, however, certified through RCAT (Roofing Contractors Association of Texas).

Something else you should know is that contractors who are not reputable tend to offer deals that are completely different than their competitors.

Homeowners Guide: What You Need To Know Before Hiring A Roofing Contractor (*Especially After A Storm*)

Red flags of a 'too good to be true' contractor are:

- *Abnormally low bids, which can indicate stolen materials*
- *Contractors asking for upfront payments that extend past supply costs, already delivered to your property, could be an indication of a scam*

This is one area we really want you to know the importance of. The money involved in your roofing project is important. Texas Star Roofing is strong financially and we don't ask our customers to "be the bank."

What we mean by that is that you will not be asked to provide us with ANY money down on your roof. You'll pay us when you are satisfied the work is done correctly and completely.

If another roofer needs a deposit to start your project, consider that to be a HUGE red flag.

As a property owner you have to be diligent in checking every answer you are given. Although someone may seem trustworthy, you may be risking shoddy work, extensive repair costs, and in some cases even lawsuits simply because you did not pick a reputable contractor.

With repairs as important as roofing, it pays to be selective. There are reputable contractors who will provide fair prices and honest service.

At Texas Star Roofing we encourage our clients to delve into our work history. For every question on this list we can provide an answer.

We are a local, established, insured, and award winning company with nearly two decades worth of references and satisfied customers.

Homeowners Guide: What You Need To Know Before
Hiring A Roofing Contractor (*Especially After A Storm*)

The BBB rates us at an A+, and Angie's list has awarded us the Super Service Award for the past five years running as well as given us recognition since 2004. We hope to make your project our next success.

Call us today for a FREE Inspection at 972-509-7570.