

BEFORE hiring a ROOFING CONTRACTOR



WE WANT TO HELP YOU
**ASK THE RIGHT
QUESTIONS**

-  **ASK ABOUT
THEIR BUSINESS**
-  **ASK ABOUT
HEALTH & SAFETY**
-  **PROTECT
YOURSELF**

HIRING A ROOFING CONTRACTOR



Before you hire a roofing contractor, follow these steps.

Your home is a major investment, so you shouldn't trust your new roof to just anyone. By choosing a professional roofing contractor, you will have peace of mind knowing that the job will be done safely and properly, and your investment will be protected.

Remember—roofing is dangerous work. Even a small slip can have disastrous consequences. The risk of someone falling off your roof is always there. When workers are on your roof, they must be protected from a fall. Usually, they protect themselves by using lifelines (rope) and safety harnesses. If you see a worker on your roof without a harness, they're probably not protected from a fall.

Step 1:

Ask about their business.

Step 2:

Ask about health and safety.

Step 3:

Protect yourself.





You could be **personally liable** if an accident or an injury occurs.

ASK ABOUT THEIR BUSINESS

- How long has the contractor been in business?
- Can the contractor provide you with a list of references?
- Does the contractor use a written contract that includes the scope of the work and terms of payment?
- Will the contractor provide you with the following documentation?
 1. A valid manufacturer's warranty.
 2. A copy of the contractor's WSIB Certificate. Make sure the contractor's WSIB Certificate is current. Visit [wsib.ca/en/looking-data](https://www.wsib.ca/en/looking-data) to check the safety performance of your contractor. Clearances are valid for up to 90 days from the date of issue.
 3. A copy of the contractor's work-related insurance certificate to ensure that risks are covered. Insurance should include a preset amount of liability coverage.

ASK ABOUT HEALTH & SAFETY

- Does the contractor have a health and safety policy and program? (Contractors are required to have it if they employ five or more workers.)
- Will the contractor give you written assurance that they will comply with the legislation that governs the work?
- Can the contractor provide you with a contact name and the name of the supervisor that will be at your house? It's important for you to have someone in a position of authority that you can talk to if needed. If there are more than five workers, a competent supervisor must be on the site.
- Can you get assurances that the contractor is assigning competent workers to perform the work, such as proof that workers have been trained in the health and safety requirements associated with the job (e.g., certified working at heights training)?

PROTECT YOURSELF

If roofing contractors do not provide you with the information you've asked for, they may not have WSIB coverage or insurance of any kind. You could be personally liable if an accident or an injury occurs. This can include being held responsible for medical and other costs. You could also be exposed to lawsuits.

Do not rely on verbal promises. Protect yourself and your assets by ensuring the contractor gives you a written contract. This written agreement should include specific work to be performed, the terms of payment, and warranties or guarantees. Without a contract, you are not protected.

21 Voyager Court South, Etobicoke, ON M9W 5M7
Toll Free: 1-800-263-5024 • info@ihsa.ca



Make safety work for you. IHSA is your first step.

The Infrastructure Health and Safety Association (IHSA) is Ontario's trusted health and safety resource. Our goal is to improve the lives of Ontario workers. We provide the resources and training that control and eliminate safety hazards in work environments involving high-risk activities.

At IHSA we have always maintained a standard of excellence. We are proud of our role in helping to make Ontario one of the safest places in the world to work.

Our focus is on workers and keeping our promise to provide them with the tools to *Work Safe for Life*.

Developed by the Roofer Trade Labour-Management Health and Safety Committee in partnership with IHSA.

Find out what we
can do for you at [ihsa.ca](https://www.ihsa.ca)

IHSA023

© Infrastructure Health and Safety Association, 2019

