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*Helping
Queenslanders
Build Better*

fact: n. 1. an event or thing known to have
app. d. ex. 2. a tr. h. re. na. e. fr. i.
sp. in. or observ. ic. 3. a p. ce. f.
information. get me all the facts of this case.

FACT SHEET

CHOOSING A CONTRACTOR

Your home is likely to be your greatest investment. Be cautious when choosing a builder or trade contractor as this decision can determine whether the project runs like a dream or a nightmare.

Any building work over the value of \$3,300 must be carried out by a BSA-licensed contractor. A BSA licence indicates that the person whose name appears on the card is licensed to deal directly with the public. (It is important, however, to make sure that the person holding the card is the person whose name appears on the card.)

Some building work must be performed by a licensed contractor, regardless of the value of the work (with the exception of hydraulic services design). This work includes:

- Draining
- Plumbing and Drainage
- Gas Fitting
- Chemical Termite Management
- Fire Protection
- Completed Residential Building Inspection
- Building Design
- Site Classification
- Hydraulic services design (work up to \$1,100 can be done without a licence)

Contractors carrying out asbestos removal or demolition work must hold a licence from Workplace Health and Safety Queensland.

BSA advises that the first step you should take when choosing a contractor is to make a list of local contractors able to do the job, and then check their qualifications and past work.

Consumers can find builders and trade contractors through:

- personal recommendations from previous clients
- industry associations (e.g. QMBA, HIA)
- advertisements in the local media – television, newspaper, radio
- on-site signs
- trade directories
- telephone books
- building material suppliers (e.g. hardware outlets)

When looking at classified advertisements, make sure the ad includes the contractor's name and BSA licence number as this is required by law.

For more information, or to check if a contractor holds a suitable licence for the job call 1300 272 272 or perform a FREE Online Licence Search at www.bsa.qld.gov.au.