

Questions to Ask to Find a 'LEAD-SAFE' Contractor

- Does your company use lead-safe work practices when remodeling or painting?
- Have you and/or your employees been trained in lead-safe work practices?
- How will you keep the lead-based paint dust from contaminating my house and yard? Will your written contract include this information?
- How long has your company been in the remodeling business?
- Do you have an Oregon State Department of Human Services (DHS) Lead-Based Paint Permit? What is your Lead-Based Paint Permit number?
- Are you registered with the Construction Contractors Board (CCB)? What is your CCB number?
- If there are subcontractors, are those firms registered with CCB? Do they have DHS Paint Permits?

Construction Contract Information

One of the best ways to avoid construction disputes is to negotiate and follow a well-written construction contract. Most construction disputes can be traced back to the parties' failure to write, understand, and follow a well-written contract. Well written construction contracts often include the following procedures:

- Full name and CCB license number of the general contractor as it appears on the CCB Web site at: <http://www.oregon.gov/CCB/>
- Full name of the owner, the job address and contact information such as phone numbers.
- A detailed description of the scope of construction work.
- List of specific lead-safe work practices to be used in the project.
- Start and completion dates.
- List of required permits, such as the DHS Lead-Based Paint Permit.
- Agreement that any changes to the contract will only be done upon written "change orders" signed by both the contractor and the homeowner.
- Signature of both parties to the contract.

Keep a signed copy of your contract, and all related materials in a safe place.