



BUYERS' CLASSROOM

HOW TO CHOOSE A BUILDER

With the many options of homes and builders out there, the decision process can be very overwhelming. Shopping for a builder is just as important as shopping for your home. Here's a few tips on how to choose a reputable builder:

- ✓ Ask how long the builder has been in business
- ✓ Check what kind of credentials the builder has, such as member of their local HBA, etc.
- ✓ Has the builder won any awards or have any designations?
- ✓ Ask for a professional reference list of suppliers & subcontractors.
- ✓ Where do they work from? Do they have an office?
- ✓ Do they have a warranty program and how does it work?
- ✓ Shop for quality vs. square footage.
- ✓ Above all else, ASK QUESTIONS!

NEW VS. USED HOMES

NEW

You design a home to reflect your individual style and family's needs

Newer energy-efficient features saves you money

Ability to choose a more contemporary floorplan

Minor home maintenance

USED

You settle for someone else's choices, not your own style.

Older homes have higher energy costs and lack features

May need to remodel an existing home to fit the needs of today

May require increased maintenance to repair mechanics, etc.

BENEFITS OF A LOCAL BUILDER

Using a local home builder can have many benefits to buyers. For example:

- ✓ It allows for a more intimate home building experience
- ✓ You can rely on the same contact person throughout the building process.
- ✓ Offers the ability to establish a neighborly relationship with your builder.
- ✓ Many local builders have extensive building experience, whether it be through their own business or one passed down through the generations.
- ✓ They most often offer more flexibility in design and materials than larger builders.
- ✓ A local builder is always just a phone call away.

