



Press Release

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Selecting the Right Builder for Building a Your Dream Home

(Waukesha, Wis.) April 23, 2013 – Choosing a builder is likely the most important decision in the custom homebuilding process. The Metropolitan Builders Association (MBA) offers tips to select the right builder.

Choosing a builder early in the process – ideally before you’ve settled on a site or design for your home – can set the stage for a successful home-building experience. The building process is complex and most owners need professional guidance from the beginning to avoid mistakes in site selection, home design and setting a budget.

Your budget shouldn’t be among the top criteria in selecting a builder. No builder can quote an accurate price for a custom or semi-custom home until he or she knows the type, style, finishes and features of the home, the site conditions and the type of contract you want to use for construction. Rather than focusing on cost, you may want to base your decision on the builder’s competence, reputation, professionalism, warranty coverage, experience, and always make sure they are a member of the MBA.

Here are a few things to consider when selecting a builder:

1. Types of Builders:

Custom Home Builder: A truly custom home has an original and unique design. It is designed to be built on a specific site and purchased by a specific buyer.

Semi-Custom Home Builder: A semi-custom home starts with an existing home design, which then is modified to fit the individual home buyer’s needs.

Production Home or Model Home Builder: A model is built according to a standardized plan.

Spec Home Builder: A home built “on speculation” by a buyer who hasn’t identified a specific builder but hopes to sell it during construction or shortly after it’s completed.

2. Builder Reputation: Look for an established builder who is a member of the Metropolitan Builders Association. MBA members have met stringent membership eligibility requirements set by the MBA to protect consumers.

3. Areas of Operation: Choose a builder who is familiar with the area where you want your home to be built. Local knowledge is important in handling variations in local building codes, subcontracting practices or other factors.

4. Type of Home: Select a builder who has extensive experience constructing homes in your price range and general design style.

5. Compatibility: Building a home is a highly personal and emotional experience. You’ll want choose a builder with whom you’ll feel comfortable.

6. Warranty: The builder should be willing and able to offer you a comprehensive written warranty on your new home.

7. Financial Stability: Make sure the building company you select is financially viable.

8. Financial Strength: Successful builders are in the best position to contract for the services of top subcontractors and suppliers – the people who will actually build your home.

9. Quality: Cost is not a direct measure of quality. Good quality is the merging of good design with appropriate products and materials that are installed with superior workmanship.

10. Do Your Homework: If you are in the market for a new home, condo, duplex, or townhouse, search the MBA's Find a Builder database to find appropriate contractors or call the Association at 262.436.1122.

ABOUT NEW HOME MONTH

On March 22, 2013, Governor Scott Walker declared the month of April "New Homes Month" in Wisconsin by signing an official proclamation saluting the new home construction and remodeling industries. New Homes Month is a celebration of housing, home ownership, and the jobs that go along with it. For more information about New Homes Month, including a list of MBA members visit NewHomesMonth.org.

ABOUT THE METROPOLITAN BUILDERS ASSOCIATION (MBA)

The Metropolitan Builders Association, located in Waukesha, Wis., is a not-for-profit trade association that represents nearly 1,000 companies involved in the construction, development, and remodeling of single and multifamily housing and light commercial property in Waukesha, Washington, Ozaukee, Jefferson, and Milwaukee counties. Collectively, its members employ tens of thousands of workers in the Milwaukee area and conduct millions of dollars of business each year. For more information, visit MBAonline.org or the [Metropolitan Builders Association's Facebook page](#).

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