

# Williams

Real Estate & Construction

## **How to Find a Plumber**

So that you are adequately prepared to hire a plumber let's get a little background on the plumbing business. Plumbers are one of the few trades that are licensed by the State of Texas. Therefore; prior to allowing one to work in your home or business you can quickly ensure that they are properly licensed. The following link is to the Texas State Board of Plumbing Examiners website. On their website you can search to see if the plumber you intend to use is licensed, if he is a Journeyman or Master Plumber and whether or not his license is current.

<http://www.tsbpe.state.tx.us/compact-texans.html>

Next, verify he is properly insured. Ask him for a copy of his insurance and then call his agent to verify his coverage. If he or one of his assistants causes an accident and floods your home (with who knows what) you will allow his insurance to pay for the cleanup and replacement of carpet, wood floors, sheet rock, furniture, etc...

When possible, you'll want to locate and identify a plumber you can trust in advance. It is much easier to do the necessary background work when something is not leaking all over your floor. Also, it is better to call them out to fix a small problem first. You can then rely on a trust relationship when an emergency occurs.

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The best way to find an honest plumber is to ask around. Talk with your neighbors and family that live in your area to see if they have used anyone that they could recommend. If they don't have any recommendations, then turn to the internet.

Find three or four companies and research their BBB (Better Business Bureau) rating. As in all businesses there are some people that are dishonest. What most people don't know about plumbers is the majority of them are paid on commission. This even applies to the plumbers working for large plumbing companies.

By finding an honest, reliable plumber in advance you won't have worry about making that "middle of a mess" decision to spend hundreds of dollars on a recommendation from a person who you just met. Remember, it is always better to have used someone previously and know that they will treat you honestly in your time of desperation.

- John