

## 12 ESSENTIAL CHECKS BEFORE HIRING A BUILDER



- Raise queries.** Get replies in writing
- Check client reviews** Ask to speak to past reviewees
- Website + social feed spot check.** Speak through 1-2 eye-catching things
- References.** Visit at least one past project & speak with the client
- Check company status.** At Companies House
- Check the VAT registration.** At [www.gov.uk](http://www.gov.uk)
- Guarantees and warranties.** Check if they are insurance-backed
- Health and safety.** Eyeball a copy of relevant H&S paperwork
- Accreditations.** Check out registration status with named trade bodies
- Check Insurance.** Public liability (& professional indemnity if applicable)
- Understand rights & obligations of contract.** Typically JCT, FMB, bespoke
- Payment schedule.** Have comfort with this before making the hire