

# Safety Information



Published: Thursday 25<sup>th</sup> April 2024



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To safeguard your residential or commercial property against unscrupulous cowboy builders, it is vital to take certain safety precautions. Here are some valuable tips to consider:

## Register Your Property

Register to WorkSafe Support who will act on your behalf and complete regular visits to your property to monitor progress and ensure adherence to the agreed-upon plans and specifications.

## Written Contracts

Insist on obtaining a written contract that clearly outlines the specifics of the project, including timelines, payment terms, warranties, and guarantees. Ensure that both parties sign the contract and keep a copy for your records. This will provide clarity, prevent misunderstandings, and protect your interests.

## Multiple Quotes

It is advisable to obtain quotes from multiple builders or contractors for comparison purposes. This will enable you to evaluate prices, services offered, and the quality of materials proposed. Exercise caution if a quote appears unrealistically low, as it may indicate potential shortcuts or substandard workmanship.

## References and Past Work

Request references from previous clients and visit completed projects to assess the builder's work quality. A reputable builder will willingly provide references and showcase their successful projects as evidence of their capabilities.

## Payment Schedule

Establish a clear payment schedule and milestones within the contract. Avoid making large upfront payments or paying in cash. Instead, set up a payment plan based on the completion of specific project stages. This ensures that work progresses as agreed before releasing further payments.

## Effective Communication and Documentation

Maintain open lines of communication with your builder throughout the project. Document all communication, including any changes or updates, in writing. This minimises misunderstandings and provides a record in case of disputes.



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## Quality Control

Emphasise the use of quality materials and workmanship throughout the project. Regularly inspect the construction site to ensure compliance with established standards and the use of appropriate materials.

By implementing these safety measures and precautions, you can greatly reduce the risk of falling victim to cowboy builders. Remember to invest the necessary time and effort in selecting a reputable and trustworthy builder, as it will save you from potential headaches and financial losses in the long term.