



CONTRACTOR CHECKLIST

- ✓ Check contractor's license on [cslb.ca.gov](https://www.cslb.ca.gov) under License Check
 - Their license should show up
 - *If it doesn't, they may not be licensed by CSLB and they may have just given you a business license number. Do not hire.*
 - License status should be ACTIVE
 - Classifications should include General Building
 - Bond should be in place
 - Workers' compensation policy should be active
 - Miscellaneous information should not have any violations or complaints
- ✓ Check contractor's general liability policy
 - They need to provide you with a certificate of insurance for this.
- ✓ Have the contractor add you as additionally insured on both their general liability and worker's compensation insurance policies
 - This helps protect you with the same coverage for the project that the contractor has, and also means if they cancel their policy (this is a common occurrence), you will be notified.
 - They need to provide you with both the certificate of insurance listing you as additionally insured, and an endorsement from the insurance company showing that you were actually added.
- ✓ IRS W9 form if this construction is for a rental property
 - This allows you to send them a 1099 at the end of the year and use their payments as a tax deduction. If the company you are signing the contract with is a corporation, you do not need this because you don't need to send them a 1099.
- ✓ A written contract provided by either you or the contractor.
 - Members of Orange Homes can have a copy of the written contract that I use. It greatly favors the homeowner while still including all the conditions required by law that protect the contractor.
- ✓ With each draw: A lien release
 - After you pay the contractor for each draw, have them sign a lien release for the work done and the amount paid.
 - At the end of the project, get them to sign an unconditional lien release.
 - Members of Orange Homes can have a copy of the lien release I use.