### CODE OF ETHICS AND COMPETENCY







# Contractor Standards Guide

Learn How to Choose the Right Contractor... THE FIRST TIME.

Compliments of



(800) 378-1924

AtlasHomeImprovement.com



## Table of Contents

03	Introduction
03	microaaction

#### 04 **STABILITY**

- 04 Proof of Establishment
- 05 Bank Letter & Supplier Letter
- 06 Business Licenses & Insurance
- 07 **REPUTATION**
- 08 BBB Accreditation
- 09 Customer References
- 10 Accolades and Awards

#### 11 **PROFESSIONALISM**

- 11 Detailed Proposal and Change Orders
- 12 No Tricks, No Pressure Sales Agreement
- 13 Worker Conduct Agreement & Jobsite Cleanup Roster
- 14 **GUARANTEE**
- 15 **WORKMANSHIP**
- 16 Frequently Asked Questions
- 17 In Conclusion
- 18 Contractor Standards Checklist





Questions? Call (800) 378-1924 | AtlasHomeImprovement.com



"We were **shocked** and **embarrassed** when we found out that contractors were America's #1 most complained about industry."

—Darian & David Bobby
Owners, Atlas Home Improvement

# So, You're Thinking About A Remodeling Project For Your Home?

Congratulations! When done properly, a remodeling project can make your home more enjoyable and prove to be a valuable investment. Unfortunately, we've all heard horror stories about home remodeling projects gone bad. Problems with longer-than-expected installation, final bills that come in higher than the quote, and shoddy workmanship, sadly, are commonplace. We were shocked and embarrassed to find out that, according to Better Business Bureau statistics, home improvement contractors are in the top 1% most complained about industries—right up there with auto repair and airlines.

We've always done a good job and treated our customers right—and we've been able to build a nice business because of it. However, over the years we've noticed that some consumers will choose less-than-reputable companies to do jobs for them... usually because they are quoted less money. Don't get us wrong: we're all for good, honest competition, but it pains us to see good folks risk their hard-earned money with contractors who don't have their best interests at heart. You deserve a great value for your money—which includes a contractor who uses high quality products and stands behind their work in both word and deed.

### Industry Standards Weren't Tough Enough

We wanted to find a way to educate consumers about how to choose a good, honest home improvement contractor. The industry standards simply aren't tough enough—just about anybody with a hammer and a pickup truck can be a contractor. That's why we've pioneered a set of standards called the **Code of Ethics & Competency for Remodeling Contractors.** The Code calls for contractors to uphold a high set of standards that will allow you to judge BEFORE hand whether or not a contractor is likely to do the job right. This guide specifies those standards.

Before you hire any company to work in or around your home, make sure you consult this guide and INSIST that the company comply with EVERY SINGLE STANDARD in this book. If you do, chances are excellent you'll get exactly what you want out of your project.

Darian Bobby

Sincerely,

David & Darian Bobby

Owners, Atlas Home Improvement



# STABILITY

You need to make sure that any contractor you do business with has proven themselves in the past, and will be there if you need them in the future. **Don't just ASK the contractor if they are stable;** look for tangible proof of longevity and financial stability by asking for the items listed on the next few pages.



**ATLAS HEADQUARTERS** 

### What To Look For: Proof of Establishment

Why It's Important: Believe it or not, many contractors use a pickup truck for an office and showroom. Make sure that any contractor you're dealing with is substantial enough to have a real office with all the normal business functions—accounting, production, sales, etc. If a contractor does not have an office, that should tell you something. Don't fall for the "we just use our trucks as offices!" line.





## Did you know?

According to the Small Business Administration, almost 96% of Home Improvement Companies will fail in the first 3-5 years!

### What To Look For: Company Age and Company Size

Why It's Important: It should be pretty obvious that the longer a company has been in business the more likely they are going to stay in business in the future. You need to be reassured that the contractor you hire is going to be able to survive tough economic times so they can stand behind any warranties that have been promised. You also should be looking for a contractor that has an actual staff for support behind the salesperson. Sometimes a contractor will try to make their business look much larger than it really is. Be careful you are not hiring someone who is really a sole proprietor or who only has a couple of workers. If you have any service issues after the fact you want to make sure there is a real company behind the scenes that will be ready to answer the phone and help you in the future. There is nothing wrong with a smaller company (everybody starts somewhere) but the truth is that a less established company is more likely to go out of business.

Atlas Home Improvement was founded in 1989 and is celebrating more than 30 years in business! We have a large staff of professionals to support you. Our answering service and Call Center answers the phone 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. We have several employees dedicated to Customer Service as well as a full time Service Department available should you have any issues with your project. We have multiple Quality Control Managers as well as a Master Plumber on staff. We are proud to have more than 22,000 existing satisfied customers in SE Michigan...and growing!

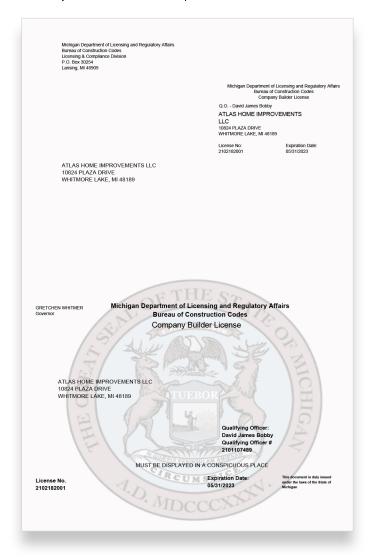




You want to always work with a company that is a Licensed Builder in the State you live in. If they are not licensed that is a red flag. If you give them a deposit they can come up missing and there may be no way to track them down.

## What To Look For: Business License

Why It's Important: In Michigan, a contractor is required to maintain a valid Builder's License on record with the Dept of Licensing and Regulatory Affairs. It is easy to check on a company's license at www.Michigan.gov/lara. Make sure they have been operating under the same name for a minimum of 5 years. Many contractors open and close their doors multiple times to avoid past customer complaints. (Naturally, some businesses will be legitimately new-if so, get a 10 year work history of the owner and ASK questions!)



## What To Look For: Insurance

Why It's Important: You need to know if your contractor carries general liability insurance for both commercial and residential projects. A sizable contractor will carry no less than \$500,000 ... and usually around \$1,000,000 of coverage. If your contractor's insurance policy can't cover potential damages, then the contractor would be personally liable. If he cannot cover the damages himself, you will have no legal recourse and will end up paying for any possible damages or injuries yourself. Many contractors are not financially stable ... and don't carry proper insurance coverage to protect you against losses. Additionally, contractors who fail to provide workers compensation benefits risk severe governmental penalties and potentially companyending lawsuits should an employee become injured.

Atlas Home Improvement carries \$2,000,000 of general liability coverage, \$1,000,000 of business auto and an extra \$1,000,000 umbrella liability to protect you and your family. Do NOT deal with a contractor without sizable coverage, or you will foot the bill for the mistake. Make sure you always ask your Sales Associate to see a copy of the company's Business License and Insurance.

-	_	_		• • • •	ICATE OF LIA					12/02/2021
CI	ERT	CERTIFICATE IS ISSUED AS A IFICATE DOES NOT AFFIRMAT W. THIS CERTIFICATE OF INS ESENTATIVE OR PRODUCER, A	VEL'	OR NCE	NEGATIVELY AMEND, DOES NOT CONSTITUT	EXTE	ND OR ALTI	ER THE CO	VERAGE AFFORDED B	Y THE POLICIES
IN If	(POI	RTANT: If the certificate holder BROGATION IS WAIVED, subject ertificate does not confer rights to	is an	ADD e ter	TIONAL INSURED, the pressure and conditions of the	ne polic uch en	y, certain po dorsement(s	olicies may r	AL INSURED provisions equire an endorsement	s or be endorsed. A statement on
PROI	DUCE	R				CONTA NAME:	CT JEFF TO	OLE		
JEF	FT	DOLE AGENCY				PHONE (A/C, N) E-MAIL ADDRE	55 JTOOLE	9-7817 @FBINSMI.C		810-229-0104
690 HOPE ST			INSURER(S) AFFORDING COVERAGE				NAIC#			
BRI	IGH1	TON			Mt 48116	INSURER A: FARM BUREAU INSURANCE CO OF MI INSURER B:				
						INSURE				
		ATLAS HOME IMPROVEME	NT			INSURE				
		10824 PLAZA DR WHITMORE LAKE			MI 48189	INSURE				_
001	VED		TIEI	ATE	NUMBER:	INSURE	RF:		REVISION NUMBER:	
		S TO CERTIFY THAT THE POLICIES				VE BEE	N ISSUED TO			HE POLICY PERIOD
IN	ERTI	ATED. NOTWITHSTANDING ANY RI FICATE MAY BE ISSUED OR MAY JSIONS AND CONDITIONS OF SUCH	PERT	AIN.	NT, TERM OR CONDITION THE INSURANCE AFFORD	OF AN	Y CONTRACT THE POLICIE	OR OTHER D	OCCUMENT WITH RESPEC	T TO WHICH THIS
NSR		TYPE OF INSURANCE	ADDL INSD	SUBR	POLICY NUMBER		POLICY EFF	POLICY EXP	LIMIT	
-	X	COMMERCIAL GENERAL LIABILITY								\$ 2,000,000
	ш	CLAIMS-MADE X OCCUR							PREMISES (Ea occurrence)	s 100,000
										s 5,000
Α					CPP-2099793		01/01/2022	01/01/2023		§ 2,000,000
		VL AGGREGATE LIMIT APPLIES PER:								ş 4,000,000
	×	POLICY PRO- LOC							PRODUCTS - COMP/OP AGG	\$ 4,000,000
1	AU	OTHER: TOMOBILE LIABILITY		Н					COMBINED SINGLE LIMIT (Ea accident)	s 1,000,000
A	Н	OWNER TAIL SCHENULED			BAP-2066646	01/01/2021	01/01/2023		8	
^	×	AUTOS ONLY HIRED AUTOS ONLY  AUTOS ONLY  AUTOS ONLY			Dri -2000040			DEORETTY DALMOS	8	
	^	AUTOS ONLY X AUTOS ONLY							(Fer accident)	\$
		UNBRELLA LIAB OCCUR							EACH OCCURRENCE	s 1,000,000
Α		EXCESS LIAB CLAIMS-MADE			U-0710865		01/01/2022	01/01/2023	AGGREGATE	\$ 1,000,000
		DED RETENTION \$	1							\$
		RKERS COMPENSATION  EMPLOYERS' LIABILITY Y/N							X PER STATUTE ER	
٨	ANY	PROPRIETORIPARTNERIEXECUTIVE ICERMENSEREXCLUDEO?	N/A		WCC-3124161	01/01/2022 01/01/2023	01/01/2022	01/01/2023	E.L. EACH ACCIDENT	\$ 500,000
^	(Mar	ndatory in NH)	177		1100-0124101		E.L. DISEASE - EA EMPLOYEE			
	DES	s, describe under CRIPTION OF OPERATIONS below	-				-		E.L. DISEASE - POLICY LIMIT	s 500,000
DES	CRIP	TION OF OPERATIONS / LOCATIONS / VEHIC	LES (A	ACORD	0 101, Additional Remarks Schedu	ule, may b	e attached if mor	e space is requir	ed)	
CE	DTI	FICATE HOLDER				CAN	CELLATION			
UE.	KIII	-ICATE HOLDER	_	_		CAN	CELLATION			
						THE	EXPIRATIO	N DATE THE	ESCRIBED POLICIES BE C. EREOF, NOTICE WILL I Y PROVISIONS.	ANCELLED BEFORE BE DELIVERED IN
		ATLAS HOME IMPROVEME	NT							
		10824 PLAZA DR				AUTHO	MIZIO REPRESI	NTATIVE		
		WHITMORE LAKE			MI 48189		SY	and.	10	
					40100		116	2010	1//VI	



# REPUTATION

### What To Look For: Our Ratings and Reviews

Why It's Important:

NOT























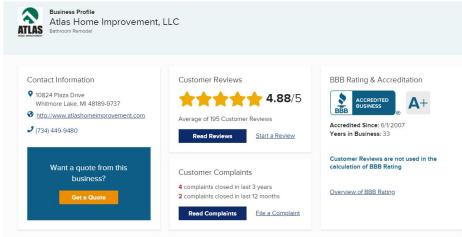
### What To Look For: BBB Accreditation

Why It's Important: You need to go further than just checking a contractor's standing with the BBB. Remember, many contractors shut down and open under new names year after year. So check to see how long they've been a member, and check to be sure the contractor is accredited by the BBB. This means that if complaints arise, the contractor agrees that the BBB's judgment is binding and must perform accordingly. Without

### What To Look For: BBB Complaints

Why It's Important:







### What To Look For: Customer References

#### Why It's Important:



Atlas Home Improvement 10824 Plaza Drive Whitmore Lake, MI 48189 (734) 449-9480 Office



#### References for Bath Remodeling

Loretta & Bob Rayment 2700 Spartan Drive Troy, MI 48083 248 840-1120

Bill & Judy Brown Dexter MI 48130 734 426-8405

Patricia Andring 4384 Old Mill Rd. Pincknev, MI 48169 734 878-2455

William & Eleanora Maher 4165 Ramblewood Dr.

Marilyn & David Renner 1005 E. Duncan St Manchester, MI 48158 734 428-1636

Sha

228

St.

586

252

Bra 109 Ply 734

HOME IMPROVEMENT

70 Tacoma Troy, MI 48084 248-821-1360 Canyon Shake: Timberwood

Michael & Kelly Savage

Mike & Janet Kochman

Atlas Home Improvement 10824 Plaza Drive Whitmore Lake, MI 48189

Dana Hull

1407 E. Stadium

734 663-2785

Ann Arbor, MI 48104

References for Stone Coated Steel Roofing System Mike Benefiel 28460 Shiawassee Farmington, Hills 48836 248-478-2726

Granite Ridge: Barclay

Dave Lindsay

Thomas Ruane 26509 Old Homestead Ct Farmington Hills, MI 48331 248-473-9462

(734) 449-9480 Office

(734) 449-9488 Fax

Robert Sinke

810-632-5374

3889 Raye Lane

Hartland, MI 48353

Canyon Shake: Timberwood

23676 Paddock Drive Farmington Hills, MI 48336

Carl & Linda Jamison

248-473-0887 Granite Ridge: Timberwood

anford

Granite Ridge: Black Onyx Craig & Sandra Gow 7348 Bennett Drive Whitmore Lake, MI 48189 810-231-3227

4344 Antique Lane Bloomfield, MI 48302 248-626-0649 Granite Ridge: Black Onyx

Bill & Mary Stout

**ENERGY-LOC** 

Phyllis & Steven Miles 29464 Valley Bend Farmington, MI 48331 248-330-6854 Granite Ridge: Timberwood

Ray & Marie Beard 38327 Klarr Drive Northville, MI 48167 248-767-3376 Granite Ridge: Barclay

Brian & Jean Schubert 8835 Crown Livonia MI 48150 734-522-7675 Granite Ridge: Barclay

9





Atlas Home Improvement 10824 Plaza Drive Whitmore Lake, MI 48189 (734) 449-9480 Office (734) 449-9488 Fax

#### References for Jacuzzi Walk-In Tubs

Arno & Wanda Enderle 13321 Lillian Lake Sterling Heights, MI 48313 586-726-6641

Joseph & Virginia Bok 8082 Appleton Dearborn Heights, MI 4812 313-565-4191

Dr. June Ridley 80 Moss Street Highland Park, MI 48203 313-492-3383

Jeanne Hardt 724 Lions Park Drive St. Joseph. MI 49088 269-982-0939

Roosevelt Madison 3323 Williamsburg Road Ann Arbor, MI 48108

Chester & Rosemary Soja 457 Stonehaven Ct. Milan, MI 48160 734-439-7843

HOME IMPROVEMENT

Atlas Home Improvement 10824 Plaza Drive Whitmore Lake, MI 48189 (734) 449-9480 Office

#### References for Titan Gutter System

Dr. Paula Davey 1677 Stadium Court Ann Arbor, MI 48103 734-662-6492

Mr. and Mrs. Dan Lobb 611 Vansull Westland,MI 48185 734-326-2104

Mr. and Mrs. Dennis Kwasny 7650 Tharp Dr. Whitmore Lake, MI 48189 810-231-3055

Northville Chamber of Commerce Northville, MI 48167 248-349-7640

Mr. and Mrs. Doug Maxson 11851 W. Mason Rd. Fowlerville, MI 48836 810-533-5466

Mr. and Mrs. Kerry Krein 11654 Milford Rd Holly, MI 48442 248-634-1770

Mr. and Mrs. Leo Wessinger 2840 Hunter Heights West Bloomfield, MI 48324 248-363-6338

Mr. and Mrs. Bernie Spafford 10683 Charring Cross Circle Whitmore Lake, MI 48189 734-449-0816

Mr. and Mrs. Michael Gorny 5156 Kitson Lane West Bloomfield, MI 48324 248-683-2437

Mr. and Mrs. Bill Carmody 3145 Forshee Dexter, MI 48130 734-426-5636

Mr. and Mrs. Jim Dunham 2759 Curdy Rd. Howell, MI 48855 517-548-1486

Mr. and Mrs. Kurt Sheppard 1989 Addaleen Rd. Highland, MI 48357 248-889-7374

Mr. and Mrs. David Robinson 9547 Daleview South Lyon, MI 48178 810-278-1626

Mr. Stewart Oldford 5586 Cullen Rd. Fenton, MI 48430 810-632-7479

Ms. Debra Brown 9140 Napier Northville, MI 48167 248-349-5286

Mr. Tedd Handlesman 5977 Hartford Brighton, MI 48116 248-361-7132

Mr. and Mrs. David Wood 3507 Gertrude
Dearborn, MI 48124 313-563-6561

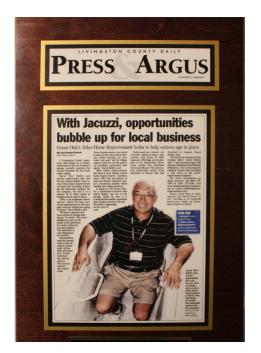
Mr. Tim Rochon 28545 Greenfield Rd. Southfield, MI 48076 248-395-2777





### What To Look For: Accolades and Awards

Why It's Important: If a contractor has been in business for any length of time—and doing a good job—they will most likely have been written about in a magazine or newspaper, received an award of some kind, or received special recognition from an association or trade organization. Any company that can't produce at least SOME of these kinds of accolades might not be worthy of accolades!









Atlas customers are surveyed by a 3rd party and they have won the Guildmaster Customer





# PROFESSIONALISM

A good contractor doesn't just do good work. They also understand that when dealing with customers, it's oftentimes the little things that make a big difference. You should find a contractor that shows you respect by the way they treat you, the way they look, the way they treat your property, and how they pay attention to details. Check any contractor you're considering against these standards of professionalism found on the next few pages.

### What To Look For: Detailed Proposal and Change Orders

Why It's Important: Most contractors provide no written bid or a basic receipt or invoice. The minimum you should accept is a bid which details the type and amount of materials to be used. Even better than that is a detailed bid which lists all your styles, colors and options to avoid confusion on what is being quoted. In competitive bidding situations, make sure that bids are "apples to apples," especially in the case where one bid is significantly less than others—not a good sign.

ATLAS HOME IMPROVEMENT	10824 Plaza Drive Whitmore Lake, MI 4 (734) 449-9480 Office www.AtlasHomeImpi	e	8 ATH W 8 Start you Beauty	e day
	SALES CON	TRACT	JOB #:	
Name:		Home Phone:		
Address:		Work Phone:		_
City, State, Zip:		Cell Phone:		
PROJECT TYPE: Shower V	Vrap Replacement Tu	b Replacement Shower	Tub to Shower Conv	ersion
DELUXE PACK	AGE	PREMIU	M PACKAGE	
BATHWRAPS® Custo     3 Wall System     Sealed With Mildew Res     New Drain & Overflow     MOEN® Kingsley Fauc     Moentrol Valve (hot, col     Surface Mount Soap disk     Two Individual Shelves (     Bowed Curtain Rod (chr	istant Silicone cover et set & Trim kit d & pressure) ((wall color)	New Drain & Ov  MOEN® Kingsle  Moentrol Valve ( Recessed Soap di	g System ew Resistant Silicon erflow cover ey Faucet set & Trim hot, cold & pressure) sh (wall color) Shelves (wall color)	e kit
	CUSTOMIZE YO	OUR PACKAGE:		
[ ] For Premium Package Only -				
Tear out existing structure: I		s: BASCO		
Upgrade to Rainshower Style   Shower Pan outside threshole   Tub or Shower Pan Color:_   Wall Color:_   Wall Pattern:   Wall Standard   Window Kit Color:_   Safety Grab Bars Size:_   Other:_	d depth: Deep / Shallo  [ (white standard) 1 (smooth standard) 1 (Height 48" from floor)  Add New Tei  Color:	w / Barrier Free (circle of  Tub Skirt Style:  Bullnose walls to existing hei  [	(straight sta- ght / Build out and take (white star Color: Color: cat / Bench Color:	ndard) to ceiling
DELUXE PACKAGE with O			AGE with Custom O	_
WSA MARKET	This proposal may be w us if not accepted by	ithdrawn by TOTAL IN	VESTMENT \$	
	Exp. Date		YMENT \$	
Name On Card				
Name On Card Acet. #	Code On Bac	k	AT ANICE &	
Name On Card Acet. #	Code On Bac	k	ALANCE \$	
Name On Card	Code On Bac Yes No Check #  E UNDER Michigan S Ily if contract was soil his transaction at any ion, For an explanat analike manner. Anything this event, buyer(s) will be al hazard exposure from ro. Lead in Your Home, befor saction. This agreement, it	UNPAID B COLICITATION SALES icited or executed at you y time prior to midnigl ion, see the Notice of C unforseen or unexpected wil informed before any additio enovations at their home and re work began. Buyer(s) ack heldufing the general terms an	ACT r residence) at on the third busin ancellation on rever be an added cost and ch nal work is begun. Buye acknowledges receipt of nowledges they were ora	ness day rse side. arged at r(s) has the illy
Name On Card Acct. # Use Above Card for Final Payment NOTICI (Applicable or You, the Buyer, may cancet to after the date of this transact All work to be performed in a workn current labor and material prices. In pamphlate, Protect Your Family From informed of their right to cancel trust	Code On Bac Yes No Check #  E UNDER Michigan S  In yi if contract was soil his transaction at any ion. For an explanat analike manner. Anything this event, buyer(s) will be ad hazard exposure from r. Lead in Your Home, befor saction. This agreement, ir, when the saction is the saction of the saction.  This agreement, ir, when the saction is the saction is the saction in the saction is the saction.  The saction is the saction is the saction in the saction in the saction in the sacti	UNPAID B COLICITATION SALES icited or executed at you y time prior to midnigl ion, see the Notice of C unforseen or unexpected wil informed before any additio enovations at their home and re work began. Buyer(s) ack heldufing the general terms an	ACT r residence) at on the third busin ancellation on rever be an added cost and ch nal work is begun. Buye acknowledges receipt of nowledges they were ora	ness day rse side. arged at r(s) has the illy

AILA	10824 Plaza Dri (734) 449-9480 Office	ve - Whitmore Lal - www.AtlasHom	
HOME IMPROVEMENT CH.	ANGE ORDER		#:
Name:	Home Phone	e:	
Address:		:	
City, State, Zip:	Cell Phone:		
THE SPECIFICATIONS OF TH APPEARS ON THE ORIGINAL THAT ALL THE WORK IS AG CREDIT TO YOUR ORIGIN	CONTRACT, BY SIGNI REED UPON AT AN AD AL CONTRACT TOTAL	NG BELOW, Y DITIONAL CI , AS STATED	YOU AGREE HARGE OR
CHANGES MA	ADE TO EXISITING CON	TRACT:	
	TOTAL	AL EQR ADOVE	6
WM negle ===		AL FOR ABOVE	
Name On Card	Exp. Date DOW	N PAYMENT	\$
Name On Card	Exp. Date DOW Code On Back UNP.	N PAYMENT	\$
Name On Card	Exp. Date         DOW           Code On Back         UNP           Check #	VN PAYMENT AID BALANCE	\$
Name On Card	Exp. Date DOW Code On Back UNP. Check # UNP. Exp. Michigan SOLICIATION SAract was solicited or executed a tent or purchase, without per	VN PAYMENT AID BALANCE ALES ACT at your residence nalty or obligati	\$
Name On Card  Acet. #  See Above Card for Final Payment Yes No  NOTICE UNDER  (Applicable only if contr  You, the Buyer, may cancel this agreem to midnight of the third business day if  Seller must return to you any paymen	Exp. Date DOW Code On Back UNP. Check # UNP. Exp. Michigan SOLICIATION S/ act was solicited or executed a cent or purchase, without per following the date this agree ts made or goods traded in. cancellation notice to the Se	AID BALANCE  ALES ACT at your residence nalty or obligatiment was signed To cancel this teller at the addr	\$
Name On Card  Acet. #  Jse Above Card for Final Payment Yes No  NOTICE UNDER  (Applicable only if cont  You, the Buyer, may cancel this agreem to midnight of the third business day!  Seller must return to you any paymen and date below and deliver or mail this	Exp. Date DOW Code On Back UNP. Check # UNP. Exp. Michigan SOLICIATION S/ act was solicited or executed a cent or purchase, without per following the date this agree its made or goods traded in. cancellation notice to the Sc business day following the date the same or goods traded in.	VN PAYMENT ALES ACT at your residence nalty or obligati ment was signed To cancel this t eller at the addrate this agreeme	\$
Name On Card  Acct. #  Jose Above Card for Final Payment Yes No  NOTICE UNDER  (Applicable only if contr  You, the Buyer, may cancel this agreem to midnight of the third business day!  Seller must return to you any paymen and date below and deliver or mail this not later than midnight of the third later.	Exp. Date DOW Code On Back UNP. Check # UNP. Exp. Michigan SOLICIATION SA act was solicited or executed a tent or purchase, without per following the date this agreet ts made or goods traded in. cancellation notice to the Se business day following the da cel in exchange for immediate of their right to cancel transaction.	ALES ACT at your residence ment was signed To cancel this t cleler at the addr at the addr at the sagreeme installation. Ini By signing you agre payment will be m	\$



### What To Look For: No Tricks, No Pressure Sales Agreement

Why It's Important: Many unethical contractors will resort to high-pressure sales tactics to get you to buy before you've had an opportunity to do proper due diligence on them. If you know nothing about the contractor prior to the sales call (from literature, references, online information), and they give you a low-ball price "but only if you buy right this minute," you should be wary. Any time you feel uncomfortable or unduly pressured in a sales environment, you should ask the contractor to "back off." Reputable companies will have a no-tricks, no-pressure sales pledge signed by the owner, sales manager, and each sales associate.

All Atlas Home Improvement's Sales Associates sign a "No Tricks, No Pressure Sales Agreement" that is also signed by our sales manager to pledge that they will handle sales situations in a respectful way.





Bathrooms Walk-In Tubs Stair Lifts **Gutter Helmet** 

#### SALES CONSULTANT "CUSTOMER RESPECT, NO TRICKS, NO PRESSURE" AGREEMENT

It's All

About

As a sales consultant for ATLAS HOME IMPROVEMENT, you must agree to abide by the principles and precepts of our Code of Ethics and Competency. Any violation of these principles will be grounds for written warning; multiple violations will be grounds for termination.

agree to abide by our Code of Ethics and Competency as well as Customer Respect Agreement when working for new and existing Atlas customers.

#### FOR ALL ATLAS SALES CONSULTANTS

- 1. I will not smoke or consume alcohol on the customer's property
- 2. I will not use foul language on the customer's property
- I will respect the customer's time by being punctual
- In the event I cannot be on time, I will call to alert the customer and reschedule if necessary
- I will be in uniform during all appointments and will keep my clothing neat and clean
- I will wear my identification and certification badge during my appointment
- I will wear shoe covers when walking inside the customer's home
- I will respect the customer's telephones, bathrooms, parking spaces, etc.
- I will earnestly strive to find the best solution for each customer's needs
- 10. I will recommend the proper direction to take if Atlas products are not the proper solution 11. I will not utilize high-pressure techniques to force customers to comply with my requests
- 12. I will not sell products or services to customers when they are financially not able to manage
- the investment 13. I will utilize company approved pricing sheets in order to give all of my customers a fair
- price 14. I agree to treat all customers equally and offer everyone the same company approved
- 15. I agree to BBB and Federal Trade Commission standards that any first visit incentive may
- not be offered after initial visit 16. In the event that the customer is not ready to move forward, I will respect their decision
- 17. I will give my customers the opportunity to express any concerns they have and work to resolve them
- 18. I agree to keep in touch with my customers and follow-up after the installation is completed
- 19. I will conduct all business transactions in an ethical manner

Sales Consultant Signature	Date
Sales Manager Signature	Date
Company Owner Signature	Date

10824 Plaza Drive, Whitmore Lake, Michigan 48189 · www.AtlasHomeImprovement.com Toll Free: 800 545-1652 • Office: 734 449-9480 • Fax: 734 449-9488



### What To Look For: Jobsite Cleanup Checklist

Why It's Important: Your home and yard should be cleared of large debris, and dangerous materials daily by the crew. After the job is completed, a total home clean-up should take place, including nail/screw detection (with a specialized magnet) and removal of any hazardous materials in your house or yard. Make sure your contractor has a pre-determined daily jobsite cleanup routine, and a more thorough cleanup routine upon completion of the job. All Atlas Home Improvement Fabricators follow this multi-step cleanup checklist at the end of EVERY SINGLE DAY. Show this checklist to other contractors. See if they don't balk.

### What To Look For: Worker Conduct Agreement

Why It's Important: This compliance agreement, signed by the workers, is a 21-point contract prohibiting the use of alcohol, drugs, foul language, misconduct, or other bad behavior on a job site. It also gives appearance standards. Keep in mind that not everything is perfect, but this agreement will greatly reduce the likelihood of problems. All Atlas Home Improvement Fabricators sign a "Worker Conduct Agreement" that is also signed by our Production Manager to pledge that they will conduct themselves in a respectful and courteous manner.



ATLAS HOME IMPROVEMENT	It's All About Trust.	Bathrooms Kitchens Walk-In Tubs Stair Lifts Gutters Gutter Helmet					
Wor	rker Conduct Agreement						
As a crew member for ATLAS HOME IMPROVEMENT, you must agree to abide by the principles and precepts of our Code of Ethics and Competency. Any violation of these principles will be grounds for written warning; multiple violations will be grounds for termination.							
I	_ agree to abide by these guideline new and existing Atlas customers.						
FOR ALL ATLAS EMPLOYEE WORK	<u>ERS</u>						
2. I will not use foul language on tall will not yell or bring negative at I will not consume alcohol or draw in which was a summer of the was a	attention to the jobsite ups on the jobsite ups on the jobsite ups on the jobsite on the jobsite quietly ork hours as well as keep clothing certification badge when on the joe ephones, bathrooms, parking spacesses kept to a minimum st that are left on the jobsite in an octions and/or licenses as appropriate event I will be late for scheduled has begun mecowner when I will be finished for omeowner when I will be finished for omeowner when I will be finished for omeowner before work begins to go et almorovement and homeowner in working at their home owner(s) and answer all questions as work progresses so homeowner of each day as well as at the job's cage I find to homeowner, such as restafely while in homeowners neighb	obsite ces, etc. orderly fashion at the end te for my trade(s) start times or if I need to or the day to over job and make sure a professional way so a regarding work project ers property is not left in completion rotten wood, even if it does					
Employee Worker Signature	Date						
Production Manager Signature	Date						
10824 Plaza Drive, Whitmore Lake, I	Michigan 48189 • www.AtlasHomelm	provement.com					

Toll Free: 800 378-1924 • Office: 734 449-9480 • Fax: 734 449-9488

# GUARANTEES

### **What To Look For: Company Guarantees**

Why It's Important:

















**REMODEL WITHOUT THE RISK!** 



# WORKMANSHIP

Ultimately, any contractor has to be competent to do the job right the first time. Competence comes as a result of training, experience, and good old-fashioned hard work. As you evaluate a contractor, look for signs that they can do the job right the first time.

### What To Look For: Employees Vs. Subcontractors

Why It's Important:













## Frequently Asked Questions

## Q: Are there any other things I should look for or watch out for that aren't listed in the pages of this guide?

A: Look for some of these telltale signs of contractors who shouldn't be trusted:

- Main phone numbers that ring to cell phones
- Main phone numbers that are never answered by receptionists
- Trucks without signage on them
- No business cards or cheap business cards
- No company logo on work clothes/uniform
- Few references available
- Unresolved BBB complaints or no report at all
- Prices that are unusually low compared to other bids
- No website or very poor website
- Ability to start on your job immediately—no backlog
- Unwillingness to give any information

#### An Ounce Of Prevention...

It's been said that an ounce of prevention is worth a pound of cure. When the stakes are high—your home and your wallet—that saying is even more true. We hope that by reading this guide you feel more prepared to evaluate home improvement contractors and make the best decision for your family.

## Q: Are you saying that you are the only company in the area that can uphold these standards?

A: Most companies cannot uphold them, but there are several good, honest contractors to be found. Just be sure to take the time and use this guide to make sure before you hire anyone.

#### Q: Can a contractor just "fake" these standards?

A: Not likely. Most shady contractors that don't put any effort into making their businesses good, also won't put effort into faking these standards. It's a lot easier for them to just move on to their next unsuspecting victim.

## Q: What if a contractor <u>SAYS</u> they can do all these things, but can't show the proof?

A: Don't settle for lip service. Demand to see the documentation for every single standard on the checklist at the end of this guide.







## In Conclusion

When you're hiring someone to do any type of work in your home, remember it's your money and your home. Be sure you get everything in writing, ask all the questions on your mind and clearly understand the answers you receive.

Besides what we've mentioned here, there are several other ways to gather information on a company before giving anyone a dime. Check with consumer-to-consumer reporting groups like the Better Business Bureau, at www.betterbusinessbureau.com



If all this makes sense, and you are curious about our approach to remodeling, please give us a call. We'll be happy to answer all of your questions for free.

As part of our commitment to our previous and potential new customers, at your request, we will set up a time to come to your home to answer your questions and concerns. At this time we can also determine if we can meet your remodeling needs. We provide this as a FREE, NO OBLIGATION service for you and your family.

Hopefully we can show you, as we have thousands of others, how to make your home absolutely gorgeous— something to be really proud of!

Remember that when Atlas Home Improvement visits your home, we are not going to use high-pressure sales tactics. Our visit is simply a chance for you to meet us and see if our services can benefit you. If, after our meeting, you believe there is no benefit to working with us, just say so and we will part as friends. If, however, you find our solutions helpful and like what you see then we will leave a price in writing good for 1 full year.

can't think of a better way to work. Can you?

If you think our approach is fair and honest, please consider Atlas Home Improvement for your construction needs.

Best of luck with your remodeling plans!

Sincerely,

David & Darian Bobby

Owners, Atlas Home Improvement

# Contractor Standards Checklist

For your convenience, we've enclosed a checklist of all the items you'll want to look for before hiring any contractor.

WHAT TO LOOK FOR	ATLAS HOME IMPROVEMENT	CONTRACTOR A	CONTRACTOR B
Proof of Establishment	✓		
Bank Letter & Supplier Letter	✓		
Business License	✓		
Insurance	✓		
BBB Accreditation	✓		
Guarantees	✓		
Customer References	✓		
Accolades and Awards	✓		
Detailed Proposal and Change Orders	✓		
No Tricks, No Pressure Sales Agreement	✓		
Jobsite Cleanup Roster	✓		
Worker Conduct Agreement	✓		
Project Photos for Ideas & Inspiration	✓		
Money Back Guarantee	✓		





Atlas Home Improvement is family owned and operated by father-son team David & Darian Bobby

Questions? Need More Information?

## Call (800) 378-1924 AtlasHomeImprovement.com

10824 Plaza Drive, Whitmore Lake, MI 48189