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CHECK CREDENTIALS WHEN HIRING A PROFESSIONAL REMODELER

Plymouth, WI, April 27, 2011- If you're planning a home remodel, hire a professional remodeler with excellent credentials. According to the Sheboygan County Home Builders Association the best remodeling results are achieved when qualified remodelers do the work.

"Remodeling professionals have training, experience, skills, and solid references," said John Techel, SCHBA President and owner of JT Construction. "Home owners can hire the best remodeler for the job by checking credentials and choosing the most qualified candidate."

Ask about these credentials when hiring a professional remodeler:

1. Certifications and Insurance

All professional home remodelers should be insured and able to display a certificate proving possession of insurance. While not all states require remodelers to be licensed, the State of Wisconsin does require contractors to be certified and maintain that certification with continuing education. Insurance and certification helps to demonstrate that the remodeling firm is in good standing.

2. Education

The most skilled professional remodelers not only have experience on the job, but education. These remodelers have invested in continuing education and professional development to keep their remodeling and business skills sharp and better serve their customers.

3. Association Membership

Many successful remodelers are members of trade associations like the National Association of Home Builders or Sheboygan County Home Builders because it offers business resources and continuing education. Membership also provides opportunity for professional growth and expanding knowledge of the remodeling industry.

4. Excellent References

Glowing references are abundant for professional remodelers because happy home owners enjoy sharing their good experiences and appreciation of their newly upgraded space. Ask to speak with previous clients and to see photos of previous home remodels for getting a sense of their customer relations practice and work style.

5. **Business Skills**

Experienced remodelers know how to manage their business, which provides stability and security for their customers. These professionals will provide a written contract for a home remodeling job, as well as guarantees and warranties for their work. Another important sign of honest business practices from a remodeler is outlining a clear payment schedule and not requiring large amounts of cash up front. Professional remodelers should also have a good reputation with the Better Business Bureau and a good credit report, indicating solid business operations.

Conduct thorough research when hiring a professional home remodeler so that you hire someone with good credentials. Verifying smart business practices and remodeling expertise will better ensure that your home remodel will be completed successfully.

The Sheboygan County Home Builders Association has 145 members living and working in the Sheboygan County Area. They are an organization of active professionals affiliated with the Wisconsin Builders Association and the National Association of Home Builders. SCHBA promotes the American dream of home ownership by working for quality, safe and affordable housing in Wisconsin. For more tips on planning a home remodel or hiring a professional remodeler, visit www.nahb.org/remodel or contact SCHBA at (920) 892- 6280 or visit www.schba.org.

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