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6 Tips for Choosing the Right Home Inspector

1. Is the inspector using modern Reporting technology and techniques?

Today's home inspector should be using an electronic report, some inspectors are still using a hand written checklist report. As the client, a hand written reporting format limits the services that can be provided to you. With a handwritten report how are pictures inserted next to the inspectors remarks? The answer is that they aren't. What if you prefer to have the report burned to CD or emailed to you? It can't be. What if you lose a copy of the report, can the inspector quickly email you a copy? No.

Your report from American Home Inspectors will be computer generated and have in it all of the modern reporting features. The report can be burned to CD, emailed or color printed, as the client, you choose. A copy of your report will be kept permanently, if lose your copy just call and you will be emailed another copy at no additional charge. An electronic report offers you the client convenience and choices.

2. Training, did your inspector receive formal training or did he/she learn how to "inspect" through trial and error at the clients expense?

Be sure that your home inspector received formal training at a reputable school. At the end of training was your inspector given a test to ensure that he/she had the knowledge and skill necessary to conduct a proper home inspection. Does your inspector regularly attend courses continually educate his/herself on constantly changing industry techniques and codes? A list of certifications obtained through an online correspondence course is not a substitute for proper training. Today's homes and building techniques are ever changing and more complex than those of yesterday, continuing education and training are a must!

Your American Home Inspector attends courses throughout the year to continually train, retrain and learn about new technology and techniques to protect you, the client.

3. What are former clients saying about their inspection experience?

Is the inspector is receiving referrals from clients and realtors, if so then that shows that the inspector is providing quality service that others want for their family, friends and clients.

Superior service is why you too will want to refer AHI to your family and friends! Just take a look at what our clients are saying about us, their comments are posted on the website.

4. Client relations. Will the inspector be around after the inspection?

After the inspection you will be in the home for years to come. Can you call the inspector in 6 months, 2 years or more with a question about your home, advice on an upgrade that you would like to make to the home or for a referral to a good contractor that the inspector trusts?

Your American Home Inspector is your inspector for life, call anytime after the inspection with questions or for advice. Check the website regularly, good information is added almost daily.

5. Professional Affiliations?

Is your inspector a member of a national organization that requires proof of continuing education? Reputable national organizations require that the inspector adhere to an accepted set of standards of practice and a code of ethics.

Your American Home Inspector is a member of the National Association of Home Inspectors (NAHI). NAHI requires that its members provide proof of continuing education each year and all NAHI inspectors are required to adhere to NAHI standards of practice and code of ethics.

6. Licensed to perform Home Inspections?

Is your potential home inspector licensed by the state to perform home inspections.

Your American Home Inspector is licensed by the state of Maryland to perform a professional home inspection for you and your family. Isn't it nice to know that you wont be dealing with some fly by night inspector.