

Things to consider.....

when hiring a contractor to complete your work

	<u>Sooty's</u>	<u>Others</u>
Does your Contractor		
Get Permits	√	?
Have a Contractor's License	√	?*
Have proper license for work	√	?*
Have NFI certification for installation	√	?
Complete repairs to current fireplace codes	√	?
Have a F.I.R.E certified inspector to ensure repairs meet current fireplace code	√	?
Maintain relationships with professional organizations like HPBA, IAFCI to ensure the latest technologies and techniques are used for your repairs	√	?
Conduct a safety survey to protect occupants from fire related hazards before work is started	√	?
Attend continuing education classes on chimneys/ fireplaces regularly to maintain expertise in the fireplace industry	√	?

Why are these things important?

Repairing or installing a fireplace that meets code is important for the health and safety of the occupants. Codes have evolved over time out of catastrophe and are required to be followed by contractors. Having a permit protects both the Contractor and the Homeowner. Contractors are required to pull permits by the State Board, but some may not take this step as it is tedious and time consuming.. Insurance companies can deny a claim if permits were not secured. Using a licensed contractor gives the homeowner rights and protection by law. Remember you are burning a fire in a wood framed structure – Building to code is worth the effort.

*Work over \$500.00 requires the proper and active California contractor's license
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