

# 10 Questions To ask a Contractor



## Before you hire one for your remodeling project

Hiring a contractor isn't just about finding someone who can "do the work." It's about trust, communication, and knowing your investment is in capable, experienced hands. The right questions will help you separate the pros from the pretenders — and make sure you end up with a team that will deliver quality results without the headaches. Here's what you should ask before signing any contract.

### 1. Is the company locally owned and operated?

Yes. Cornerstone was founded by Anthony ("Tony") Leopardi in 1988 and is still a family business today. We create jobs, invest in our community, and give back. We're your neighbors — our reputation for delivering great work at a fair price is the foundation of who we are.

### 2. How long has the company been in business?

This may be the single most important question you ask. The longer a company has been in business, the better — for you. In fact, staying power is the single biggest indicator of competence, professionalism, and trustworthiness.

At Cornerstone, we're proud of nearly 40 years in Southwest Florida. To this day, our best salespeople are satisfied customers who recommend us to their friends and neighbors...and that says it all.

### 3. Who will be my main point of contact during the project?

Clear communication is key to a smooth remodel. At Cornerstone, you'll have a dedicated project manager who's responsible for scheduling, updates, and answering any questions you have from start to finish. You'll always know exactly who to call.

### 4. Does the company provide designers to layout the best design options for you and your home?

Yes. We have more than 40 experienced designers on staff to guide you through the latest styles, trends, and layouts. Many homeowners discover possibilities they never imagined — and seeing that moment of excitement is one of the best parts of our job.

### 5. Does Cornerstone have its own local manufacturing facility?

Absolutely! Cornerstone's 88,000-square-foot, state-of-the-art facility in Fort Myers is where our skilled craftsmen bring your vision to life. From building custom cabinets to fabricating granite and quartz countertops — it all happens right here, in-house. You can even explore our on-site stone yard, featuring a wide selection of beautiful granite and quartz slabs to choose from.

## 6. Does the company have electricians, plumbers, painters, carpenters, drywall, tile, glass and mirror installers on staff?

Yes, in every category. Having specialists in-house for every part of the job allows us to maintain consistent quality and deliver that "WOW" factor every time.

## 7. Does the company have showrooms where you can go to see their products?

Yes — and it's worth the visit. Our three showrooms are stocked with displays, finishes, fixtures, and materials you can see, touch, and compare. This is the fun part where you can see just how beautiful your new kitchen or bath might look when it's done? Want to feel and hold our materials or check out hundreds of fixtures and handles and browse cabinet finishes and countertop options? No pressure — just inspiration.

## 8. How does the company handle changes or unexpected issues during the project?

Even with careful planning, surprises can pop up in remodeling. At Cornerstone, we address issues transparently and quickly, providing clear options and written change orders so you always know the cost, timeline, and impact before work continues.

## 9. Is the company licensed and insured? Are they registered with the State of Florida and local accredited organizations?

Yes. Cornerstone is fully licensed and insured, listed on [sunbiz.org](http://sunbiz.org), and accredited with the Better Business Bureau. (Licensed and Insured Certified Building Contractor CBC #1258975.)

## 10. What is the company's warranty?

We stand behind our work. Cornerstone offers a lifetime material warranty on all products we manufacture, for as long as you own your home. You don't last long in this business, much less nearly 40 years, if you don't deliver quality products and stand behind your work.

You deserve a contractor who delivers quality without excuses, communicates clearly, and treats your home as if it were their own. At Cornerstone, we've built our business on those principles for over three decades — and our work speaks for itself. If you're ready to turn your vision into reality, stop by one of our showrooms or give us a call today. Let's build something you'll be proud of for years to come.

