

CHOOSING A COMMERCIAL ROOFING CONTRACTOR

 **TEMA** *roofing services*

Introduction

Choosing a commercial roofing company for your roofing project shouldn't be a quick, overnight decision. After all, a roof is a significant investment in your building and has the potential to protect your business for decades when done correctly.

While commercial roofing systems come in all shapes and sizes, the monetary investment is never small—especially when completing a full re-roofing project. And, that's why it's imperative to hire a reliable, reputable contractor with industry experience.

Reliability Is Important

The cost associated with commercial roofing isn't the only reason you need to use a reputable company—but it certainly leads the charge! Ultimately, you want to complete the roofing project knowing that your contractor will be a lifelong business partner: available for questions, available for concerns, available for education.

At TEMA Roofing, our clients know that our decades of experience mean that we are there for them every step of the way.

24-Hour emergency repair response? **TEMA is ready.**

Free estimates for roof repair or replacement? **TEMA does it.**

Preventative maintenance to stay ahead of issues? **TEMA's program is one of the best.**

Professional, industry-focused affiliations? **Yes! We've got quite the list.**

When you choose a commercial roofing contractor, whether for repair or replacement, you are putting your company's safety in their hands. So, how should you go about finding a professional, reliable commercial roofing contractor?

Let's check out our
Comprehensive Guide to
Choosing a Commercial
Roofing Contractor.



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Identify Companies to Consider

There are dozens of options for commercial roofing contractors in northeast Ohio alone. But, the key to a great experience is finding the best of the best. And in order to do that, you need to do some research. When identifying companies to consider, you should start with the following:



1. Have an understanding of local roofing laws.

Do a little research and have a general understanding of local codes and ordinances. For example, In Youngstown (Mahoning County), Ohio, all contractors need to first register with the city. This includes anyone who wishes to perform roofing jobs, including commercial roofing companies. Contractors also need to satisfy the city's bond requirements before they can get registered.

2. Research Better Business Bureau (BBB) ratings.

The BBB has been helping people find trusted businesses and services for more than 100 years. Check out the [local ratings](#) for roofing companies that you're considering BEFORE you reach out to them.

3. Ask other business owners about the roofing companies they've used.

Word of mouth is often the best type of advertising a company can have. If a fellow business owner is willing to refer you to a roofing company that they've done business with in the past, that means they're a satisfied customer!

4. Verify [licenses/certifications/experience](#).

In Ohio, there is no statewide licensing regulation for roofing contractors. Instead, licenses and permits are required by the building departments and vary depending on location. Be sure to also look into the company's history and notable affiliations (local building associations and national organizations, like the [National Roofing Contractors Association](#)).



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Narrow Down Contractor Options

Once you have a shortlist of contractors to consider, begin narrowing down your options even further by reaching out and asking some preliminary questions. Get estimates and review all written proposals. And remember, the lowest bid doesn't always offer the highest value!



1. Ask the same, basic questions to all commercial roofing companies.

Where are you located? How long have you been in business? Are you licensed and insured? Can you provide a list of references and/or recent projects? Are you a member of any professional associations? Do you provide free estimates? What are the payment terms? How far out are you scheduling projects?

2. Weigh the unique selling propositions (USPs) of each company.

USPs are particular services or characteristics of a company that make them stand out from the competition. For example, here at TEMA, we feel that our three generations and 50+ years of experience, combined with our numerous professional affiliations, [24-hour emergency response](#) and [preventative maintenance programs](#), make us leaders in the industry.

3. Consider the valuing process of all estimates you receive.

Be wary of a contractor who provides a quote but fails to ask detailed questions and complete an extensive onsite inspection. Reputable contractors start every estimate with an understanding of the job size and the current roofing system and ultimately provide a detailed description of the work needed to address the issue at hand.



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Choose a Commercial Roofer

Once you've settled on a commercial roofing company, make sure you have a strong grasp of the project details. The right contractor will have outlined many (if not all) of the specifics in their proposal, but it's important to know timelines, product descriptions, the process for final inspection and payment details.



1. Know the installation timeline for your project.

You can't effectively run your own business if you don't have a solid understanding of when crews will be onsite for roof repair or replacement. A professional roofing contractor sets timelines and can tell you when to expect their roofing professionals to be working throughout the days or weeks ahead.

2. Have an understanding of local codes and permits needed.

As mentioned above, it's important to have an understanding of local codes and ordinances. And, at this stage of the game, you will need to know if your builder is responsible for obtaining any permits, if permit costs are included in their price, and if an inspection is required upon project completion.

3. Get details on the roofing system being installed or the product being used for repair.

A reliable roofing company will have reviewed these details during their proposal process. BUT, just to be safe, make sure you know what types of products are being used, what their life expectancies are, and if the material or labor is covered under warranty.

4. Project wrap up often includes clean-up, inspection and final payment.

The project isn't complete until the commercial roofing company has thoroughly cleaned up the area and allowed for final inspection of the work. While you should have discussed payment terms early on, often a final payment is due upon completion of the repair or replacement.

At TEMA Roofing, we believe that knowledge is power, and we want our customers to make the most informed decisions possible. If you have questions about your business's roofing system, [reach out to our experienced team](#) today. We look forward to being your roofing partner.



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