<u>Local Contractors and Services - Lawrenceville</u>

The following is a list of local contractors who submitted their information to Lawrenceville United and can be used as a resource. Attached to the list are the Better Business Bureau's "Tips to Choosing a Contractor" that you can use to help choose the best contractor for you. By sharing this list, we are not recommending any specific companies. Nextdoor Pittsburgh now includes a recommendation section where you can view businesses recommended by your neighbors.

Rocco Leffakes: 412-606-2223
• Plumbing services

Nick Lardas: 412-427-4097

• Interior and exterior renovations. Specializes in restoring missing architectural details to residential and commercial buildings. Rebuild cornices: Corbels, crown mold and frieze boards. Rebuild dormers, window and door surrounds with entablature, pediments and pilasters. Kitchens, baths, interior and exterior trim details. Extensive work history in Lawrenceville. Licensed and insured.

Robert Usner: 412-583-8604

- Interior/exterior painting, plastering and drywall. Residential and commercial cleaning.
- Lifelong Lawrenceville resident.

Leggett Kitchens: 412-621-2100

- Leggett Kitchens has been specializing in kitchen and bath projects in Pittsburgh since 1886. Our large showroom in Lawrenceville showcases beautiful kitchen and bath displays to inspire your project. Our design staff is dedicated to working closely with each customer to create the kitchen or bath of your dreams. With 4 cabinet lines to choose from with many different door styles, stains and paint selections you will find we can meet both your style and budget. Our countertop selection room has many samples of quartz, granite and corian. We have been fabricating DuPont Corian in-house for over 25 years! Our staff installation team is both professional and detailed and we have many contractors that we work with for full renovation projects.
- Lawrenceville Resident Discount: Leggett is offering a free measure and 1 hour in-home design consultation to local residents (a \$95 value) as well as a 5% discount off a full renovation project.

Rose Popovich, Designer: Rose.popovich@wtleggett.com
Tracy Sherksnas, Designer: Tracy.sherksnas@wtleggett.com

Sipes and Sons: 412-996-3904

• Specializing in home improvements, renovations, electrical work and structural work

T's Upholstery Studio: 412-687-1988

- Restoring and reupholstering furniture in Lawrenceville since 1998.
- Also provide custom window treatments, including all wood plantation shutters, cornices, curtains, shades, and blinds.
- Designer fabrics available @ 20% savings.
- Located at 3611 Butler Street; info@tsupholsterystudio.com

Adams Construction: 412-537-9361

• General contracting: kitchen, bathroom, roof, and complete renovations

Coyne Masonry: 412-531-1648

- Brick painting and cleaning, basic brickwork, chimney repair
- 10% Lawrenceville resident discount

Trade Institute of Pittsburgh: 412-727-2970Bricklaying, carpentry, general labor

Essig Renovation & Design: 724-513-2540

- Commercial renovation: office, retail, and restaurant
- Residential renovation, including kitchen, bathroom, deck, windows, etc.
- Custom woodworking: shelves, cabinets, bars, furniture, etc.

Tips for choosing a contractor from the BBB:

- 1. **Start With Trust.** Start your search with BBB for <u>Business Reviews</u> on companies you plan to contact and get a list of <u>BBB Accredited Contractors</u> by calling 877-267-5222 or going to <u>bbb.org</u>. Find out a company's rating and complaint history and read the complaint details when applicable to understand both sides of the issue.
- 2. **Verify Registration.** The Home Improvement Consumer Protection Act requires all contractors, who perform at least \$5,000 worth of home improvements per year, register with the Bureau of Consumer Protection of the Pennsylvania Attorney General. To find out whether a contractor is registered with the Office of the Attorney General call 888-520-6680 or visit attorneygeneral.gov.
- 3. **Cost Compare.** Before making a financial commitment, solicit at least three bids from prospective contractors based on the same building specifications, materials, labor and time needed to complete the project. Remember that the contractor with the lowest bid may not be the best suited for the job.
- 4. **Confirm Insurance.** Request proof that the company has up-to-date insurance covering workers' compensation, property damage and personal liability. Ask for a current copy of the insurance certificate for your records. You have the right to request that the contractor's insurance company provide you with a current copy.
- 5. **Obtain References.** Obtain 2-3 references from former customers of the contractor you are considering hiring. Find out if the customers were satisfied with the work that was done and inspect the work yourself whenever possible. Ideally, it is best to go out and inspect the contractor's work over a year after it has been completed, so you can see firsthand how it has held up over time and after all four seasons.
- 6. **Don't Pay in Full.** Never pay for an entire job in advance or pay cash to a salesperson or contractor. The law states for a contract of more than \$1,000, a contractor cannot accept a deposit in excess of 1/3 of the contract price, or 1/3 of the contract price plus the cost of

special order materials.

- 7. **Request Receipts.** Make sure you get a receipt from the contractor that properly accounts for any amounts you have paid. Once the job is completed and you have paid for everything, request a receipt marked "paid in full." Never make final payment or sign an affidavit of final release until you are satisfied with the work done and know that all subcontractors and suppliers have been paid.
- 8. **Understand Your Contract.** Before signing a contract, read over it in its entirety. Do not sign if there are any blank lines or if there are any statements you don't entirely understand. The law requires that a copy of the contract be given to you at the time of signing, so be sure to request one if you are not initially provided with it. Keep a copy of the contract after the job is completed in case there is an issue.
- 9. **Know Your Rights.** Under the Federal Trade Commission's <u>Cooling-Off Rule</u>, contracts for goods or services in excess of \$25 that are entered into as a result of a contact at your home, either in person or by telephone, can be canceled within three business days following the date of the contract. In addition, a contractor is required to fully refund any amount paid by a customer within 10 days after receiving a written request for refund, if 45 days have passed since the work was to begin, and no substantial portion of the work has been performed.
- 10. **Recognize Red Flags.** Avoid contractors who approach you at your home claiming to have material leftover from a previous job and they can offer you a great deal. Be cautious of contractors who try to pressure you into signing a contract immediately or claim that no contract is needed. If a contractor requires you to apply for your own building permit or utilize your name, consider it a red flag. By not applying for the permit yourself, you are better protected in the instance that the work does not pass inspection.

Finding a trustworthy contractor may take some effort, but your time and research will pay off. Visit bbb.org for additional helpful tips on hiring a home improvement contractor.