

building the right relationship

*with your
custom
home
builder*

Getting the house of your dreams starts by choosing a builder who can share your vision.



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BOSHAW RESIDENTIAL

After years of saving and planning, you're finally ready to build the home of your dreams. You can already imagine your family pictures hanging on the wall, making holiday meals in your new chef's kitchen or watching the game in your state-of-the-art entertainment room. But before your dreams become a reality, you must find the custom home builder who shares your vision.



We are lucky to have a variety of builders in the Lowcountry to choose from. How can you be sure you're working with the right builder for you?

When interviewing a potential homebuilder, besides ensuring the company is properly licensed, consider the builder's financial stability and reputation with the business community and clients. The builder should be able to show you a portfolio of past jobs. Photos will

give you an idea of what the company can do, but you can also ask the builder for clients' names and phone numbers. Whether you're local or not, this will give you a chance to speak with the homeowner about their building experience.

Once you find a builder who fits all your must-haves including style and craftsmanship, reputation and budget; you're almost ready to start designing your dream home.



While constructing a home, your builder should become your new best friend. Include him or her in as many start-to-finish aspects as possible. A good builder will appreciate being personally involved in the process.

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"Choosing the right homebuilder isn't just about someone who looks perfect on paper," according to Ron Boshaw, with Boshaw Residential Custom Home Building & Renovations in Bluffton. "It comes down to trust, honesty, solid communication and above all, a good relationship."

Think about it, you're building your dream home. You want someone whom you feel comfortable sharing your dream with and more importantly, someone who understands that dream well enough to turn it into reality.

For Boshaw, "That relationship starts with the first handshake."

Your builder should be personally involved in as many aspects of the home building process from start to finish including lot selection, budget planning, home design and construction, trim details, material selections and interior design.



Whether you've clipped pictures from magazines and online idea boards for years or you're starting with a blank slate, your builder should be able to conceptualize your wants and needs and turn them into a dream home you can enjoy for years to come.

"Every detail of a new home needs to be communicated and understood by both the homebuyer

and homebuilder," Boshaw says. "The client is purchasing a home and putting his or her faith in the builder. The client must have the confidence in their builder to know the right decisions will be made every step of the way."

Your builder should take the time to know your lifestyle including your tastes, wants and needs. Perhaps, send your builder photos of your current home and living space to provide talking points about your way of life. No matter your situation, you should always feel comfortable to communicate with the builder any concerns, preferences or questions regarding the design, budget or building process. This open relationship is the only way to ensure you are 100 percent satisfied with the finished product.

Once building is complete, the builder should conduct a tour to review the specifics of your new home to ensure you understand how to operate and maintain all aspects of the property. Even if the builder's job appears to be done, a custom home builder should be available to answer any questions or concerns you have as long as you live in your home.

From start to finish, developing a good relationship with your builder is of utmost importance. In the long run, you'll not only have a house well built to your specifications, but also you'll most likely discover a long-lasting friendship with your builder. ■