COMPARE THE SAME WORK BEFORE COMPARING THE PRICE

10 questions before you accept a builder's quote.

Use this with the quotes in front of you. Keep a note of missing answers and ask each builder to confirm the important points in writing.

PROJECT _____ **DATE** _____

01 Have we all priced the same work?

Confirm the brief, drawings, specification, dates and revisions. Send changes to every builder quoting.

02 What is included - and left out?

Ask about preparation, access, scaffolding, waste and making good. Mark anything unclear for a written answer.

03 What does "finished" mean?

Confirm the actual finish for walls, ceilings, flooring and fittings. Is decorating included, or does the work stop earlier?

04 Which figures are allowances?

Ask what each allowance covers and how it will be adjusted when you choose the item or confirm the work.

05 What is the total I would pay?

Confirm any applicable VAT, the total payable and how long the quote remains valid. Keep uncertain amounts visible.

Unclear does not mean £0.

Keep unknown costs marked as unresolved. A neat total can still be incomplete.

CHECK THE ARRANGEMENTS AS WELL AS THE PRICE

Get the next steps clear.

06 Who supplies, fits and checks each item?

For things you buy yourself, agree responsibility for measurements, delivery, storage and installation. Count each cost only once.

07 What does the programme depend on?

Ask about start and finish dates, key stages and your decision deadlines. Record who arranges outstanding permissions or specialist input.

08 What triggers each payment?

Ask what each stage covers and what checks support it. For an advance, understand what it buys and how the money is protected.

09 How will changes be agreed?

Ask for a clear process to record changed work, price and timing before approval. Keep the agreed revision with your project records.

10 What evidence supports my choice?

Check relevant completed work, customer references and current insurance. Confirm who supervises, who your contact is and who handles concerns.

Still to clarify

Question / missing answer	Who replies / by when?

Want to work through your quotes?

Before You Accept a Quote - £250 package

Lesson 01: Compare quotes. Spot the gaps. Video + three-page comparison toolkit, worked example and clarification wording.

Explore the package and free example >

General guidance for homeowners in England, not an individual project assessment.

Further reading: Citizens Advice - Before you get work done on your home.

https://before-you-build.tom340460.chatgpt.site/compare-quotes