

LICENSED CONTRACTING IN QUEENSLAND

EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 2025

In Queensland, building work must be carried out by an appropriately licensed contractor if the value exceeds certain thresholds.

For most building work, the minimum value is \$3,300. This requirement extends to work conducted in over 50s residential parks and retirement villages.

By choosing a licensed contractor with the correct type of licence (for example, for building work the person should hold a trade contractor or building licence) you may have the following benefits:

- compliance with Queensland's building regulations
- access to the QBCC-administered Queensland Home Warranty Scheme, which protects against defective, incomplete or subsidence-affected work undertaken on a residential property
- work is performed by a qualified contractor with proven experience and credentials.

By hiring a licensed contractor for work over \$3,300, you also ensure quality repairs, compliance with legal requirements, and long-term protection for your home and investment.

Note: There are several types of work including electrical and plumbing, which regardless of cost, can only be legally carried out by licensed individuals.

The risks of unlicensed building work

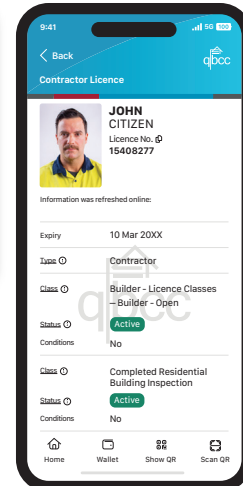
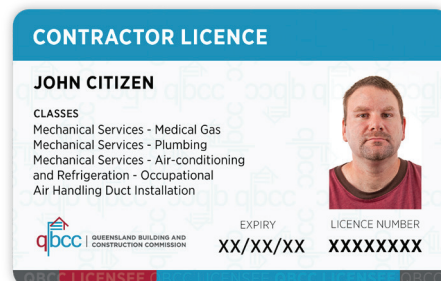
Unlicensed building work is not only illegal in Queensland, but it also poses serious risks. Contractors without the proper qualifications, experience or financial stability may produce substandard work, leading to potential:

- structural issues that compromise your home's safety
- additional costs for rectifying poor-quality work now and into the future
- disputes that may turn into legal proceedings in some instances.

Spotting an unlicensed contractor

Don't get caught out by an unlicensed 'handyperson' advertising on local pages offering to do building work valued at more than \$3,300.

Useful links



Handypersons can do work up to the value of \$3,300—excluding certain specialised work—and they must state this limitation in their advertising.

All licensed contractors will have either a physical QBCC licence card or a digital licence, which may look like the featured examples (be aware that different trades have slightly different card designs). **If they can't show you their licence, show them the door.**

How to find a licensed contractor

It's important to check a contractor's licence before you enter into any agreement. The easiest way to find a licensed contractor is by using the QBCC's free [find a local contractor](#) online search.

You can select the 'type of work' you are looking for, as well as a 'location' and 'radius'. Your results will be a list of all QBCC-licensed contractors in that area, along with their contact details. The search results contain only licensees who have registered for this service and will not include a complete list of all QBCC licensees.

Note: For plumbing and drainage work, there is a [separate register on the QBCC website](#) that you can consult. Alternatively, if you have a person's licence number or name, you search for them in the QBCC's [licensee register](#).

The register provides a complete licence history and is more detailed than the 'find a local contractor' online search, so it may be more useful when narrowing down the choice of licensed contractors you're considering.

If you can't find them in our licensee register, there's a chance they're not licensed. You can phone our contact centre on 139 333 for confirmation. For more information on this search process refer to the QBCC Fact Sheet: Checking the QBCC record of a licensee.

Find a local contractor



Licensee Register



The QBCC's Home
Owner Hub

