

XYZ Construction

HOME IMPROVEMENT PROPOSAL/CONTRACT

XYZ Construction
 "When you need it done right!"
 4444 Fifth St., Suite 666
 Lancaster, CA 93535
 Phone (661) xxx-xxxx
 Cell (661) xxx-xxxx
 Ca. Contr. Lic. #000000

Owner's Name: JOHN Q. CUSTOMER		Owner's Address: 949 GRANT ST			
Owner's City: BENICIA	Owner's Zip Code: 94510	Owner's Home Phone: 707-747-4735	Owner's Work Phone: 800-820-5656		
Project Address: 747 BOEING ST, SUITE 757		Project City: CONCORD	Project Zip Code: 94556	Project Phone: 510-015-1111	Date: 8-10-03

I/WE, the Owner(s) of the premises described above authorize XYZ Construction, hereinafter referred to as "Contractor", to furnish all materials and labor necessary to improve the above premises in a good, workmanlike and substantial manner according to the following terms, specifications and provisions:

a. Description of the work & of the materials used: Re-side the complete exterior of the above residence with Hardiplank #45678. Work to include replacement of all corner trim and window trim with rough sawn redwood. Existing T-1-11 siding to be removed and hauled to dumps. Painting to be done by others.

b. Description of any areas that will NOT be worked on: Detached garage in rear.

This list of specifications may be continued on subsequent pages (see page number below).

c. Payment: Contractor proposes to perform the above work, (subject to any additions and/or deductions pursuant to authorized change orders), for the

Total Sum of \$ 14,000.00 Down Payment (if any) \$ 1000.00

PAYMENT DUE WHEN

PAYMENT DUE WHEN	AMOUNT
1. <u>After materials</u>	\$ <u>500.00</u>
2. <u>After removal of existing</u>	\$ <u>2000.00</u>
3. <u>After front & rear done.</u>	\$ <u>5000.00</u>
4. <u>At completion of job.</u>	\$ <u>3000.00</u>

Payments to be made in installments as follows:

By check upon receipt of invoice for the draws as described under "Payment Due When" to the left.

d. Commencement and Completion of Work: Per section 7159 (l) of the Calif. Business and Professions Code, without lawful excuse, of any contractor to substantially commence work within (20) days after the approximate date specified below when the work shall begin is a violation of the Contractors' License Law. Substantial commencement shall mean either the physical delivery of materials onto the premises or the performance of any labor.

Approximate Start Date: 8-21-03

Approximate Completion Date: 9-21-03

e. Acceptance: This proposal/contract is approved and accepted. I (we) understand there are no oral agreements or understandings between the parties of this agreement. The written terms, provisions, plans (if any) and specifications in this proposal/contract is the entire agreement between the parties. Changes in this agreement shall be done by written change order only and with the express approval of both parties. Changes may incur additional charges.

Additional Provisions Of This Proposal/Contract Are On The Reverse Side And May Be Continued On Subsequent Pages (see page number below). Read Notice To Owner on page two (2) before signing. Read "Arbitration of Disputes" provision on page two (2), provision 11 and the NOTICE following this provision. If you agree to arbitration, initial on the line below the NOTICE where indicated. Also, initial in the same place on EACH COPY of this contract.

 approved and accepted (owner) _____ date _____

 approved and accepted (owner) _____ date _____

 approved (contractor) _____ date _____

You, the Buyer, may cancel this transaction at any time prior to midnight of the third business day (in the case of disaster repairs, seventh business day) after the date of this transaction. See the attached Notice of Cancellation form for an explanation of this right. You, the Homeowner (Buyer) or Tenant have the right to require the Contractor to have a performance and payment bond, or funding control approved by the Registrar of Contractors. The cost of this bond may be paid by the Owner.

NOTE: This proposal may be withdrawn after 30 days from 8-10-03 if not approved and signed by both parties.

ADDITIONAL PROVISIONS- Unless otherwise specified herein, the following additional provisions are expressly incorporated into this contract:

1. Plans, Specifications, Permits and Fees. The work described in this proposal/contract shall be done according to the plans and the plan specifications (if any) except in the case of conflict when the provisions of this contract shall have control over both the plans and the plan specifications. All required building permits will be paid for by owner and obtained by Contractor. All other charges, taxes, assessments, fees, etc., of any kind required by any government body, telephone, utility company or the like shall be paid for by Owner.

2. Property Lines. Owner is responsible to locate and inform Contractor of the location of all property lines. At Contractor's discretion, Owner may be required to provide at Owner's expense, a licensed surveyor's map of the property showing property lines.

3. Change Orders. Should Owner, construction lender, or any government body or inspector require any modification to the work covered under this proposal/contract, any cost incurred by Contractor shall be added to the contract price as extra work and Owner agrees to pay Contractor his normal selling price for such extra work. All extra work as well as any other modifications to the original proposal/contract shall be specified and approved by both parties in a written change order. All change orders shall become a part of this proposal/contract and shall be incorporated herein.

4. Delay. Contractor shall not be held responsible for any damage occasioned by delays resulting from: work done by Owner's subcontractors, extra work, acts of owner or owner's agent including failure of owner to make timely progress payments or payments for extra work, shortages of material and/or labor, bad weather, fire, strike, war, governmental regulations, or any other contingencies unforeseen by Contractor or beyond Contractor's reasonable control.

5. Cleanup & Advertising. Upon completion, and after removing all debris and surplus materials, wherever possible, Contractor will leave premises in a neat, broom clean condition. Owner hereby grants to Contractor the right to display signs at the job site for the period of time starting at the date of signing of this contract and continuing uninterrupted until fourteen (14) days past the date the job is completed and payment in full has been made. Owner grants Contractor the right to publish the job site address on a "references" list which may be given to prospective customers.

6. Unanticipated Conditions & Concealed Damage. Expense incurred because of unusual or unanticipated conditions shall be paid for by owner a latent work (conditions such as, but not limited to, ground conditions that require fill, or unusually hard soil, rocky soil, or the presence of ground water). Contractor will inform Owner of any defect or other deterioration or unanticipated condition which is concealed and is discovered during the course of the work. Contractor is not responsible to repair any such discovered deterioration or condition and any work done by Contractor to remedy such will only be done as extra work in a written change order.

7. Hazardous Substances. Owner understands that Contractor is not qualified or licensed as an inspector or abatement contractor for Hazardous Materials (as defined by the government). Should a hazardous substance be suspected to be present, it is the Owner's responsibility to arrange and pay for inspection & abatement.

8. Payment. Payments shall be made per Sec. 7159 (e) and (f) of the California Business and Professions Code. Pursuant to Sec. 7159 (f) of the California Business and Professions Code, upon satisfactory payment being made for any portion of the work performed by contractor shall, prior to any further payment being made, furnish to the person contracting for this home improvement, a full and unconditional release from any claim of a mechanic's lien pursuant to Section 3114 of the Civil Code, for that portion of the work for which payment has been made.

9. Collection. Owner agrees to pay all collection fees and charges including but not limited to all legal and attorney fees that result should Owner default in payment of this proposal/contract. Overdue accounts are subject to interest charged at the rate of 10% per annum.

10. Legal Fees. In the event litigation arises out of this proposal/contract, prevailing party(ies) are entitled to all legal, arbitration, and attorney fees. The court shall not be bound to award fees based on any set, court fee schedule but shall if it so chooses, award the true amount of all costs, expenses and attorney fees paid or incurred.

11. Arbitration of Disputes. Any controversy or claim arising out of or relating to this proposal/contract, or the breach thereof, shall be settled by arbitration in accordance with the applicable Construction Industry Arbitration Rules of the American Arbitration Association which are in effect at the time the demand for arbitration is filed. A judgment upon the award rendered by the arbitrator(s) may be entered in any court having jurisdiction thereof. Any arbitration award shall be subject to correction and/or vacation for the reasons stated in the Code of Civil Procedure. The arbitrator shall award reasonable attorneys fees and expenses to the prevailing party. After being given due notice, should any party fail to appear at or participate in the arbitration proceedings, the arbitrator shall make an award based upon the evidence presented by the party(ies) who do (does) appear and participate. Notwithstanding Contractor's right to arbitrate, Contractor does not waive any of its lien rights.

NOTICE: By initialing in the space below you are agreeing to have any dispute arising out of the matters included in the "arbitration of disputes" provision decided by neutral arbitration as provided by California law and you are giving up any rights you might possess to have the dispute litigated in a court or jury trial. By initialing in the space below you are giving up your judicial rights to discovery and appeal, unless those rights are specifically, included in the "arbitration of disputes" provision. If you refuse to submit to arbitration after agreeing to this provision, you may be compelled to arbitrate under the authority of the Business and Professions Code or other applicable laws. Your agreement to this arbitration provision is voluntary.

We have read and understand the foregoing and agree to submit disputes arising out of the matters included in the "arbitration of disputes" provision to neutral arbitration.

I Agree to Arbitration: _____
(Initials of Owner)

I Agree to Arbitration: _____
(Initials of Contractor)

NOTICE TO OWNER

'Under the California Mechanics' Lien Law, any contractor, subcontractor, laborer, supplier, or other person or entity who helps to improve your property, but is not paid for his or her work or supplies, has a right to place a lien on your home, land, or property where the work was performed and to sue you in court to obtain payment.

This means that after a court hearing, your home, land, and property could be sold by a court officer and the proceeds of the sale used to satisfy what you owe. This can happen even if you have paid your contractor in full if the contractor's subcontractor's, laborers, or suppliers remain unpaid.

To preserve their right to file a claim or lien against your property, certain claimants such as subcontractors or material suppliers are each required to provide you with a document called a "Preliminary Notice." Contractors and laborers who contract with owners directly do not have to provide such notice since you are aware of their existence as an owner. A preliminary notice is not a lien against your property. Its purpose is to notify you of persons or entities that may have a right to file a lien against your property if they are not paid. In order to perfect their lien rights, a contractor, subcontractor, supplier, or laborer must file a mechanic's lien with the county recorder which then becomes a recorder lien against your property. Generally, the maximum time allowed for filing a mechanics' lien against your property is 90 days after substantial completion of your project.

TO INSURE EXTRA PROTECTION FOR YOURSELF AND YOUR PROPERTY, YOU MAY WISH TO TAKE ONE OR MORE OF THE FOLLOWING STEPS:

(1) Require that your contractor supply you with a payment and performance bond (not a license bond), which provides that the bonding company will either complete the project or pay damages up to the amount of the bond. This payment and performance bond as well as a copy of the construction contract should be filed with the county recorder for your future protection. The payment and performance bond will usually cost from 1 to 5 percent of the contract amount depending on the contractor's bonding ability. If a contractor cannot obtain such bonding, it may indicate his or her financial incapacity.

(2) Require that payments be made directly to subcontractors and material suppliers through a joint control. Funding services may be available, for a fee in your area which will establish voucher or other means of payment to your contractor. These services may also provide you with lien waivers and other forms of protection. Any joint control agreement should include the addendum approved by the registrar.

(3) Issue joint checks for payment, made out to both your contractor and subcontractors or material suppliers involved in the project. The joint checks should be made payable to the persons or entities which issued preliminary notices to you. Those persons or entities have indicated that they do have lien rights on your property, therefore you need to protect yourself. This will help to insure that all persons due payment are actually paid.

(4) Upon making payment of a fully completed phase of the project, and before making any other payment, require your contractor to provide you with unconditional "Waiver and Release" forms signed by each material supplier, subcontractor, and laborer involved in that portion of the work for which payment has been made. The statutory lien releases are set forth in exact language in Section 3162 of the Civil Code. Most stationary stores will sell the "Waiver and Release" forms if your contractor does not have them. The material suppliers, subcontractors, and laborers that you obtain releases from are those persons or entities who have filed preliminary notices with you. If you are not certain of the material suppliers, subcontractors, and laborers working on your project, you may obtain a list from your contractor. On projects involving improvements to a single-family residence or a unit owned by the individuals, the person signing these releases lose the right to file a mechanic's lien against your property. In other types of construction, this protection is not as important, but may not be as complete.

To protect yourself under this option, you must be certain that all material suppliers, subcontractors, and laborers have signed the "Waiver and Release" form. If a mechanics' lien has been filed against your property, it can only be voluntarily released by a recorded "Release of Mechanics' Lien" signed by the person or entity who filed the mechanics' lien against your property unless the lawsuit to enforce the lien was not timely filed. You should not make final payments until any and all such liens are removed. You should consult an attorney if a lien is filed against your property."

Contractors are required by law to be licensed and regulated by the contractors state license board, which has jurisdiction to investigate complaints against contractors if a complaint regarding a patent act or omission is filed within four years of the date of the alleged violation. A complaint regarding a latent act or omission pertaining to structural defects must be filed within 10 years of the date of the alleged violation. Any questions concerning a contractor may be referred to the Registrar, Contractors State License Board, P.O. Box 26000, Sacramento, CA 95826-0026. State law requires anyone who contracts to do construction work to be licensed by the Contractors' State License Board in the license category in which the contractor is going to be working- If the total price of the job is \$500 or more (including labor and materials). Licensed contractors are regulated by laws designed to protect the public. If you contract with someone who does not have a license, the Contractors' State License Board may be unable to assist you with a complaint. Your only remedy against an unlicensed contractor may be in civil court, and you may be liable for damages arising out of any injuries to the contractor or his or her employees. You may contact the Contractors' State License Board to find out if this contractor has a valid license. The board has complete information on the history of licensed contractors, including any possible suspensions, revocations, judgments, and citations. The Board has offices throughout California. Please check the government pages of the White Pages for the office nearest you or call 1-800-321-CSLB for more information.