



“How To Interview a Residential Building Designer or Architect”

Experience

1. What is your design philosophy?
2. What sets you apart from other professional designers or architect with similar experience?
3. Do you have experience with the building type and size of my home?
4. Will you share with me a portfolio of similar projects and provide a list of client references?
5. Who from the firm will I be dealing with on a regular basis? Is this the person who will design my project?

My Project

1. Are you interested enough in this project to make it a priority?
2. What challenges do you foresee for my project?
3. What do you see as the important issues or considerations in my project?
4. What is your estimated timetable for my project?
5. What means will you use to collect information about my needs, goals, etc.?
6. How will you help me to fully understand the scope and sequence of the project? Will you utilize models, drawings, or computer animation?

Design

1. What are the steps in the design process, and how are they organized?
2. What criteria will be used to establish priorities and make design decisions?
3. What do you expect me to provide?
4. How disruptive will construction be?
5. What role do you have during construction? Am I expected to work with the contractor directly?

Fees

1. How do you establish fees?
2. In anticipation of a formal proposal with costs, what would you expect your fee to be for this project?
3. What is included in your basic services and what services would incur additional fees?
4. If the scope of the project changes later in the project, will there be additional fees?
5. How will this be communicated to me?
6. What is your track record with completing a project within the original budget?

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