

Useful Contact Details

Tuesday, 28 November 2006

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This is a growing list of websites and contact people to assist you in the "planning" phase of your building. It is by no means a complete list and All About Building would welcome additional contact details and information from the relevant departments, architects, builders, in fact anyone who can shed some light on easy and quick access to information so that all the relevant material can be found in one single place.

The National Home Builders Registration Council

<http://www.nhbrc.org>

In terms of Section 10 of the Housing Consumers Protection Measures Act, 1998 (the Act) any person in the business of home building must register with the National Home Builders Registration Council (the NHBRC).

The NHBRC is statutory body.

By law, all home builders have to be registered with the Council, and have to comply with the Council's building quality standards. Check beforehand to see that your builder is registered, or if he has been suspended or deregistered - you can do this on the web site.

Legal Implications

If you are "in the business of home building" and you fail to register, you may be found guilty of an offence in terms of Section 21 of the Act. On conviction, you may be liable for a fine of up to R25 000 and/or a one year prison sentence on each charge.

Exception: Owner Builders

Owner builders, within the meaning of the Act, need not register with the NHBRC. See section on Owner Builders for further information.

You can visit the NHBRC website here. It is very comprehensive and will give you links to many of the institutes and associations involved in home building.

If you're having problems with your builder, contact the Council for assistance. The Council will investigate and get the builder to fix the problem. If your builder has gone out of business, the Council's fund will see to it that your home is brought up to scratch.

Tel: (011) 348 5700

Toll-free: 0800 200 824

Fax: (011) 789 2902

The Council has offices in all provinces - click on "regions" on the website.

Gauteng Master Builders Association

<http://www.gmba.org.za/>

Offers a range of services to the public, either for free or for a reduced fee. If you feel a builder has provided you with unsatisfactory workmanship, the Association offers advice, inspections and mediation. You can get access to impartial contractual documents, and search the members directory online by specialty, area or company name.

Address: 234 Alexandra Avenue, Midrand, JOHANNESBURG, 1685

Tel: 011 805-6611

Fax: 011 805-6718

E-mail: gmba@mweb.co.za

Â Western Cape Master Builders Association

www.mbawc.org.za

Address: Belmont Square, Belmont, Rondebosch, 7700

Postal address: P.O. Box 382, Rondebosch, 7700

Tel: 021 685 2625

Fax: 021 685 2622

E-mail:Â info@mbawc.org.za

Â Electrical Contractors Association of SA

www.ecasa.co.za

The Association regulates the electrical industry, and guarantees to rectify defective work or materials on contracts of up to R10 000 by its members.

Tel: (011) 392 0000

Fax: (011) 974 9402

Â Clay Brick Association of South Africa

<http://www.claybrick.org.za>

Developing and growing awareness, knowledge and support of burnt clay masonry and maintaining consistent standards in the production of clay brick across South Africa.

Clay Brick Association of South Africa

P O Box 1284

Halfway House

1685

Tel:Â (011) 805-4206Â Â Â Â Â Â Â

Fax: (011) 315-3988Timber Frame Builders Association

<http://www.tfba.co.za/members.asp>

The TFBA was set up to assist people in the building of timber homes.

Address: P.O. Box 1326, Gordons Bay, 7151

Tel: (021) 845 4435

Fax: (021) 845 4435

E-mail: info@tfba.co.zaSouth African Bureau of Standards

<https://www.sabs.co.za/>

Oversees clay bricks, cement and other building materials as well as the national building regulations.

Tel: (012) 428 7911/6006/6037

Fax: (012) 344 1568