

## Home Repair Scam

Home repair scams generally start with a fake contractor knocking at your door.

The scammer tells the homeowner that part of the house, such as the roof, is in bad shape and is in need of repair. Home repair scams are common after widespread storm damage occurs. The fake contractor will require full or a large down payment before beginning the work but will either never show up to do the work or begin working and then take off once a substantial payment is made. This leaves the homeowner needing to pay a legitimate contractor to fix and complete the repairs. Remember to always check a contractor's license, check their references, get more than one estimate, and avoid paying in cash. To verify a contractor's license, visit the Department of Commerce and Insurance's license verification page at <http://verify.tn.gov/>. If you are approached by someone offering home repair or contractor services and you think it's a scam, report it to your local police department, the FTC, and the Division of Consumer Affairs. Find more tips for hiring a contractor from the Division of Regulatory Boards at <https://www.tn.gov/commerce/article/cont-tips-for-hiring-a-contractor>.

### [Federal Trade Commission](#)

You can also report scams to the Better Business Bureau's [Scam Tracker](#) and check what scams are being reported in your area, the state, and across the country.