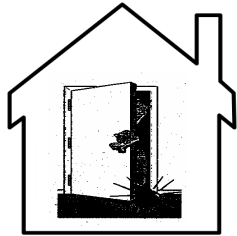


**Never sign a contract the same day it is given to you.** Think about it. Can you really afford to have the work done? Never sign a document that does not have all the information completed.

**If you do sign a contract with a door-to-door salesman, you have three working days to cancel it.** It must be done in writing.

The contract should include instructions on how to cancel it. If it does not, send a letter to the company stating that you are canceling the contract.

**If you need help canceling the contract, contact your local legal services office right away!**



### Protect Yourself!

Never let a salesperson enter your home without proper identification, preferably with a photo. You do not have to let a salesperson into your home.

You have the right to tell a salesperson to leave your home.

**If a salesperson does not leave when asked, call the police.**

#### ALTOONA

171 Lakemont Park Blvd.  
Altoona, PA 16602  
Phone: 814-943-8139  
800-326-9177

#### BEDFORD

232 East Pitt Street  
Bedford, PA 15522  
Phone: 814-623-6189  
800-326-9177

#### CARLISLE

401 E. Louthier St. Suite 103  
Carlisle, PA 17013  
Phone: 717-243-9400  
800-822-5288

#### CHAMBERSBURG

230 Lincoln Way E., Ste. A  
Chambersburg, PA 17201  
Phone: 717-264-5354  
800-372-4737

#### CLEARFIELD

211 E. Locust Street  
Clearfield, PA 16830  
Phone: 814-765-9646  
800-326-9177

#### GETTYSBURG

128 Breckenridge Street  
Gettysburg, PA 17325  
Phone: 717-334-7624

#### HARRISBURG

213-A N. Front Street  
Harrisburg, PA 17101  
Phone: 717-232-0581  
800-932-0356

#### LANCASTER

38 N. Christian Street, Ste. 200  
Lancaster, PA 17602  
Phone: 717-299-0971  
800-732-0025

#### LEBANON

513 Chestnut Street  
Lebanon, PA 17042  
Phone: 717-274-2834

#### LEWISTOWN

3 W. Monument Sq., Ste. 303  
Lewistown, PA 17044  
Phone: 717-248-3099  
800-326-9177

#### POTTSVILLE

315 N. Centre St., Ste. 201  
Pottsville, PA 17901  
Phone: 570-628-3931  
866-638-0606

#### READING

501 Washington Street, #401  
Reading, PA 19601  
Phone: 610-376-8656  
800-299-6599

#### STATE COLLEGE

3500 E. College Ave., Ste. 1295  
State College, PA 16801  
Phone: 814-238-4958  
800-326-9177

#### YORK

29 N. Queen Street  
York, PA 17403  
Phone: 717-848-3605



MidPenn Legal Services

# Home Improvement



MidPenn Legal Services serves residents of Adams, Bedford, Berks, Blair, Centre, Clearfield, Cumberland, Dauphin, Franklin, Fulton, Huntingdon, Juniata, Lancaster, Lebanon, Perry, Mifflin, Schuylkill & York Counties.

This brochure contains general information and not specific legal advice. Although this information is believed to be accurate at the time of preparation, individual situations may require individual analysis, such that it may be advisable to consult with a lawyer.  
June 2010



Pennsylvania  
**LegalAid** Network, Inc.

**As your home ages it needs repairs or improvements. If you have been contacted by someone who wants to do this work for you, you should:**

It's important to remember that registration is *not* an endorsement of a contractor's honesty or quality of work.



### **Check Them Out!**

Are they a local business with a local address and telephone number?

Have any complaints been filed against them?

Call the Better Business Bureau, the Chamber of Commerce or the Bureau of Consumer Protection.

#### **Better Business Bureau:**

412/456-2700  
717/364-3250

#### **Bureau of Consumer Protection:**

717/787-7109  
800/441-2555

#### **Chamber of Commerce:**

Check your local telephone directory.



### **Are They Registered?**

Effective July 1, 2009, the **Home Improvement Consumer Protection Act** requires that all home improvement contractors working in Pennsylvania be registered with The Bureau of Consumer Protection in the Office of Attorney General.

By requiring registration, the bureau ensures that all contractors meet minimum insurance requirements and include required terms within their contracts.

The law also prohibits unfair business practices and creates a criminal penalty for home improvement fraud. All contractors are required to include their registration number in all advertisements and on all contracts, estimates, and proposals.

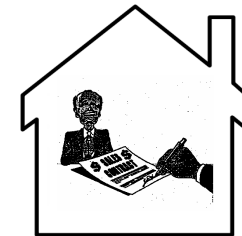
A list of registered contractors can be found online at:

<http://www.attorneygeneral.gov/hicsearch/>.



### **Can You Afford it?**

Find out the entire cost of the project. Make sure you can afford it. **Be careful of home equity loans. This puts a mortgage on your home. If you cannot make the payments, you could lose your home.**



### **Before You Sign!**

Read all documents completely before signing. Ask questions. What will you be paying and what will you be getting.

**Take your time.**

**Get answers to your questions in writing!**