

## Chapter 1 : The Best Building Inspectors Near Me (with Free Estimates)

*Over the years, I've had my share of working with building inspectorsâ€”from the plan review stage, the construction phase, all the way to final occupancyâ€”in both commercial and residential settings.*

Improving Relations Between Building Inspectors and Pro Contractors by Janet Blake, FastenMaster Communications Manager There seems to be a lot of tension between building inspectors and pro contractors with numerous opinions as to the cause. Whatever your opinion, the fact is that inspectors and contractors have the same goals in mind: In this article, I hope to give practical advice for both inspectors and contractors on developing a better working relationship. Lynn has worked in the building safety and code development profession for more than 30 years and is also a licensed contractor in Virginia. Know the Code For contractors, purchasing and understanding the most recent ICC code manuals are a requirement of doing business. Unfortunately, most do not know about code changes until failing an inspection. The International Residential Code book is the most current version. The ICC also makes code provisions available online for free here. Many municipalities offer classes and there are several online educational resources found on the ICC website to help stay current with code changes. Building Code College is a new, free online training resource for understanding code. Inspectors and contractors need to work together and learn together. The safe construction of our built environment should be achieved through teamwork between these professions. I see tradesmen that understand a trade, but not necessarily code. Lynn advises that instead of reciting code word-for-word, an inspector should take a step back and ask questions of the contractor before making a final determination. Modifications and Alternative Methods Two sections of the IRC manual specifically address the allowance of modifications, alternative materials, design and methods: Wherever there are practical difficulties involved in carrying out the provisions of this code, the building official shall have the authority to grant modifications for individual cases, provided the building official shall first find that special individual reason makes the strict letter of this code impractical and the modification is in compliance with the intent and purpose of this code and that such modification does not lessen health, life and fire safety requirements or structural. The details of action granting modifications shall be recorded and entered in the files of the department of building safety. The provisions of this code are not intended to prevent the installation of any material or to prohibit any design or method of construction not specifically prescribed by this code, provided that any such alternative has been approved. An alternative material, design or method of construction shall be approved where the building official finds that the proposed design is satisfactory and complies with the intent of the provisions of this code, and that the material, method or work offered is, for the purpose intended, at least the equivalent of that prescribed in this code. Compliance with the specific performance-based provisions of the International Codes in lieu of specific requirements of this code shall also be permitted as an alternate. Lynn advises that it is the responsibility of an inspector to dig in and research all alternatives in order to make a well-informed decision. Many manufacturers make technical documentation available in packaging and on their websites regarding the code compliance of their products. In addition, technical support teams from these manufacturers will often reach out to code officials to review product code compliance and provide proper documentation. Contractors making modifications should call and discuss with their inspector prior to inspection. Having an open discussion, providing documentation and asking for approval will increase the likelihood an inspector will give an endorsement. When an inspector understands the intent of code and is willing to look deeper than the wording on the page, they are better able explain the reason behind the code as well as be open to exceptions in building practices. Ask Questions Contractors should not be afraid to ask their inspector questions. Lynn states the prevailing attitude of building officials has changed considerably over the past few years as they are now trained to be more responsive to builders than they were in the past. What does this mean and how do I comply with that? Is there a different way to comply? If a builder is trying to understand the purpose, a good inspector should be giving the answer to what the purpose is and give the contractor guidance on how to build the next time. Glenn Mathewson agrees that he has seen the same attitude shift in Colorado. By asking respectful questions of an inspector, contractors demonstrate they are sincerely

trying to understand and comply with code requirements. Scheduling Inspections Contractors need to recognize that calling for an inspection when they are not ready is a guaranteed method for alienating any inspector. Inspectors have multiple sites to visit in a day and are often working in departments that are sorely understaffed. If contractors are courteous and prepared, inspectors are much more likely to be receptive to sharing direct contact information and best times they can be reached for scheduling future inspections. Joining a Trade Association or the ICC Contractors should consider joining or forming an association with like-minded members of their building community. Trade associations give contractors a voice in the building industry. Lynn suggests that contractors will benefit from sharing industry knowledge and experiences, not to mention having the power to affect change by coming together for a common cause. Lynn also points out that many inspectors are happy to speak at association meetings regarding code changes. In this type of setting, contractors are able to interact with inspectors away from the jobsite without the stress of passing an inspection or struggling to meet project deadlines. Contractors may also consider joining a local ICC chapter. Benefits of joining include registration to the annual ICC conference, discounts, training and the opportunity to advocate for code changes. In Summary Understanding code, allowing for exceptions and having respectful discussions will lay the groundwork towards mutual respect and improved relations between contractors and building inspectors. A question for the building and code community - Do you have any suggestions for improving relations between contractors and inspectors? Thank you to Lynn Underwood and Glenn Mathewson for their contributions in creating this article. February 28, by Janet Blake comments:

## Chapter 2 : Building inspection - Wikipedia

*Most employers require construction and building inspectors to have at least a high school diploma and work experience in construction trades. Inspectors also typically learn on the job. Many states and local jurisdictions require some type of license or certification.*

Strata schemes and company title properties With strata scheme and company title properties, the consultant will normally only inspect and assess the condition of the interior and immediate exterior of the unit you are thinking of buying. Minor defects Most properties will have minor defects such as blemishes, corrosion, cracking, weathering, general deterioration, and unevenness and physical damage to materials and finishes. Factors affecting the report There are certain conditions you should be aware of that will affect the final report. It may be difficult to detect leaks and other problems if services, such as water, have not been used for some time. For example, if the shower has not been used recently, leaks or dampness may not be obvious. Using the report for other purposes This type of building inspection is carried out specifically for the information of home buyers. It is not intended to be used as a certificate of compliance for any law, warranty or insurance policy against future problems. Nor is it intended to estimate the cost of fixing problems. It is normally the role of your conveyancer or solicitor to deal with all law-related matters. The building inspection report cannot comment on things like the location of fencing in relation to boundaries, as this needs to be done by a registered surveyor. Ordering a report Most consultants will need a minimum of days notice to do a building inspection. When ordering your building inspection report, make sure you give yourself enough time to make a decision. This will help you decide if the property is worth buying. There may be little point in spending money on conveyancing until you know the condition of the property. Inspections done during the cooling-off period When you buy a property in NSW there is a 5 business day cooling-off period after you exchange contracts. During this period, you have the option to get out of the contract as long as you give written notice. The cooling-off period starts as soon as you exchange and ends at 5 pm on the fifth business day. A cooling-off period does not apply if you buy a property at auction or exchange contracts on the same day as the auction after it is passed in. If you want to get a building inspection done during the cooling-off period, make sure you give the consultant as much notice as possible. They will have to do the inspection, prepare the report and still give you time to make a decision. If you decide not to buy the property you will also need time to get a letter to the vendor or their agent, saying that you are withdrawing from the contract. Other types of reports Special-purpose property reports A special-purpose property report would normally cover the same items as a building inspection pre-purchase property inspection report but it may also include: Check with the building consultant on what information they normally include in their pre-purchase property inspection reports and inform the consultant if you require additional information. You should consider getting a pest inspection done as well as the building inspection, especially if the property is located in an area where termites are known to be a problem. Pre-sale vendor building reports Vendors will sometimes get a building report on the property they are selling so they can give it to interested buyers. While this can be helpful, it is better from your point of view to get your own independent report. If you are not satisfied If you are dissatisfied with any aspect of the report or your dealings with a consultant, you should first try and resolve the problem with them or their company. If they are members of an industry association you may be able to get help from that association to resolve the dispute. If you can show that the consultant was negligent in doing the inspection, you can take legal action against them. It is therefore strongly recommended that you only use consultants that have adequate insurance cover, particularly for professional indemnity. Fixing problems If you end up buying the property you may need to organise repairs or renovations before you move in. If this is the case, there are some important things you should know.

## Chapter 3 : Building Inspector - Ask the Builder

*As an owner-builder, you will be working closely with the local building inspector. Here's what you need to know. Part 3 in a series.*

What is a home inspection? The inspection usually takes several hours, during which the professional takes multiple photos and notes, tracking information for a final report. After the inspection, the pro will create a printed report, complete with photos and detailed information, summarizing the condition of the house. A home inspection is often used by potential home buyers prior to purchase to determine if there are larger issues such as dry rot or a faulty foundation that are not immediately visible to the untrained eye but that would cost a lot of money to resolve. Home inspections are also used by real estate agents and home sellers to address any concerns before putting a home on the market. Longtime homeowners can also schedule a home inspection to get a snapshot of their current home condition and identify any issues that need to be addressed. A home inspection is not a legal document that can be used for divorce or estate settlements, nor can it be used to secure loans or mortgages.

How do you find a good home inspector? A home inspection should tell you the true condition of a home. To find a good home inspector, first research whether home inspection is licensed in your area; not all states require licensure. If there is no regulatory body that licenses home inspection in your state, there are other ways to make sure you are hiring a trustworthy professional. Ask if they are committed to continuing education, and whether they are active members in any reputable home inspector organizations.

What should be included in a home inspection? A complete home inspection involves a visual investigation of all major elements that make up your home. Paying for an inspection before purchasing a home can save you a lot of money in the long run. Here are the main components that a home inspection covers: Home structure Foundation, grading and drainage, roof covering, roof structure, interior and exterior attic walls, ceilings and floors, interior and exterior doors, windows, stairways, fireplace and chimney, porches, balconies, decks, attached carports, and crawl space. Electrical HVAC system, heating equipment, cooling equipment, ductwork and vents, fixtures and switches, branch circuits, receptacles, service entrance and panels. Plumbing Water heater and equipment, drains, waste systems, vents, and plumbing fixtures. Appliances Garage door openers, garbage disposal, dishwasher, exhaust range, range hood, bathroom exhaust fans, cooktop, oven and microwave.

How much does it cost to get a house appraised and inspected? Home appraisals and home inspections both assess your home and provide a report summarizing the condition or value of your home based on key measurements. Unlike a home inspection for the sale of a property, a home appraisal is used for loan applications, property value assessment for sales or settlements divorce, estate, etc. Other factors that can affect cost are additional inspection services and pathogen testing. Here are some examples of average home inspection costs in various parts of the country: Home inspection in New York City: Condo inspection in New York City: Home inspection in Central Texas: Home inspection in Los Angeles:

How long does it take to do a home inspection? On average, you can expect a standard home inspection to take two to three hours. Your house size can affect inspection length, as can requesting additional services such as sprinkler system inspections, outbuilding inspections, radon testing, crawl space inspections, or pool house inspections. During the home inspection, the professional will be taking photos and looking in and around all parts of your home. The inspector will then compile a report that may be more than 20 pages. You should receive this report back within a few days to a week. The report should detail everything from minor imperfections and maintenance recommendations to major defects that need to be resolved as soon as possible, like structural failures or a leak in the basement. Your report should include photos and clearly outlined information about all major elements inspected, as well as recommendations for next steps.

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## Chapter 4 : Work Requiring Building Inspector's Office Review | Division of Public Safety

*Five years of experience as a Building Inspector or related position. RESPONSIBILITIES: Perform duties to ensure new and existing structures meet the established EPCOT Building Code, and state laws and regulations, guided by precedent and working within the limits of established policies.*

Tim Carter I was a pretty young pup when I had my first encounter with a building inspector. Building inspectors are necessary evils. What is that saying about absolute power corrupting? Some inspectors thrive off the power they wield over builders and subcontractors. I would be fascinated to see the psychodemographic analysis data about the psychological profile of most building inspectors. Something tells me it would be close to that of young police officers. Building inspector jobs are sought frequently by contractors who used to work in the building industry. I had to work with both in Cincinnati, OH. The city building inspectors only had jurisdiction within the city limits. But the county inspector could look at anything in the county. The interesting thing is that they used slightly different codes. Yes, each government body can modify the building code to suit the situation in their area. Imagine being a builder and having to keep all of that straight. You can do something correctly in one area and a mile away it becomes a code violation. To become a building inspector you have to go through a certain amount of training. There are any number of building inspector certification programs throughout the nation. If you start studying to become a building code inspector be prepared to learn all about soil strength, concrete, reinforcing steel, beams, framing connectors, safety issues, handrails, etc. Building inspector training can happen in the classroom to a certain degree, but the real education happens in the field on real job sites. The one thing you can say about many of the sections of the code is that the issues are black and white. There are few gray areas. The code gives minimum and maximum dimensions for stair risers and treads. If you decide to become a commercial building inspector, be prepared to study that much harder. The commercial building code is intensely complicated and expansive. Public safety in commercial buildings is paramount. If something goes wrong in a large commercial building that contains thousands of workers, shoppers, visitors, all sorts of bad jujumagumbo can happen. When you become a building inspector, try to be understanding. Resist the temptation to cut corners because you happen to like a particular builder. Be very careful of accepting gifts of any kind as that will flip a switch in your brain that makes you feel compelled to go easy on a builder. Stay strong and enforce the code.

### Chapter 5 : How to Become a Building Inspector: 15 Steps (with Pictures)

*Construction and building inspectors typically have an interest in the Building, Thinking and Organizing interest areas, according to the Holland Code framework. The Building interest area indicates a focus on working with tools and machines, and making or fixing practical things.*

This inspector will visit your site -- likely more than once -- as the project progresses and ask things like: Does the work match the plans on which the permit is based? Does it use methods and materials that comply with the building codes? Holding up work while waiting for an inspector to arrive and enduring his critical examination can wear on the nerves of both the contractor and the homeowner. Because later construction covers over earlier work, a major building project will require a number of inspections. The work has to be planned to allow for inspections. If you pass inspection, you can continue work. If you fail, the inspector will tell you or your contractor how to correct the problem. For small matters, the problem can sometimes be corrected on the spot and approval given to continue. A major building project, such as a new home or an addition, involves a series of inspections, depending on local regulations. Your inspection schedule may go like this one used by the city of Scranton, Penn. This takes place before the first concrete is poured. The inspector looks at the soil on which the building will rest, the forms for the footing, reinforcing rods and other factors that provide a solid base. After the foundation is erected, the inspector assures that it has been built according to code and properly coated. He will check that the anchor bolts for the top plate are in place. Once the building is up and the basic plumbing, electrical and mechanical systems are in place, the inspector returns to look over all of this work. The inspector looks at fire alarms and fire suppression systems. When all the work is done, the inspector will return one last time. He will make sure the entire project complies with code. He might look at things like the grading, fire suppression systems, smoke detectors and the heating system. The inspector will only be looking at work covered by your permit. Usually, the inspector will issue you a certificate of occupancy which verifies that your project was finished in accordance with building codes. Still have questions about the building permit process? **Building Beyond Code** The building codes that cover your permit are minimum standards. Often, it makes sense to build in a way that gives you an even sturdier and safer home. This is especially true when you face local hazards like earthquakes, hurricanes or wild fires. For example, Hurricane Ike destroyed coastal homes near Galveston, Texas, in Ten houses in the same area weathered the storm because the owners had built beyond code. They had elevated their homes to 26 feet instead of the 17 feet required to obtain a building permit [source:

## Chapter 6 : What you need to know about building Inspections

*Work Experience in a Related Occupation for Construction and Building Inspectors Because inspectors must possess the right mix of technical knowledge, work experience, and education, employers prefer applicants who have both training and experience in a construction trade.*

Duties of Construction and Building Inspectors Construction and building inspectors typically do the following: Review plans to ensure they meet building codes, local ordinances, zoning regulations, and contract specifications Approve building plans that are satisfactory Monitor construction sites periodically to ensure overall compliance Use survey instruments, metering devices, and test equipment to perform inspections Inspect plumbing, electrical, and other systems to ensure that they meet code Verify alignment, level, and elevation of structures to ensure building meets specifications Issue violation notices and stop-work orders until building is compliant Keep daily logs, including photographs taken during inspections Provide written documentation of findings People want to live and work in safe places, and construction and building inspectors ensure that construction meets codified requirements. Construction and building inspectors examine buildings, highways and streets, sewer and water systems, dams, bridges, and other structures. They also inspect electrical; heating, ventilation, air-conditioning, and refrigeration HVACR ; and plumbing systems. Although no two inspections are alike, inspectors perform an initial check during the first phase of construction and followup inspections throughout the construction project. When the project is finished, they perform a final, comprehensive inspection and provide written and oral feedback related to their findings. The following are examples of types of construction and building inspectors: Building inspectors check the structural quality and general safety of buildings. Some specialize further, inspecting only structural steel or reinforced-concrete structures, for example. Coating inspectors examine the exterior paint and coating on bridges, pipelines, and large holding tanks. Inspectors perform checks at various stages of the painting process to ensure proper coating. Electrical inspectors examine the installed electrical systems to ensure they function properly and comply with electrical codes and standards. The inspectors visit worksites to inspect new and existing sound and security systems, wiring, lighting, motors, photovoltaic systems, and generating equipment. Elevator inspectors examine lifting and conveying devices, such as elevators, escalators, moving sidewalks, lifts and hoists, inclined railways, ski lifts, and amusement rides. The inspections include both the mechanical and electrical control systems. Home inspectors typically inspect newly built or previously owned homes, condominiums, townhomes, and other dwellings. In addition to examining structural quality, home inspectors examine all home systems and features, including the roof, exterior walls, attached garage or carport, foundation, interior walls, plumbing, electrical, and HVACR systems. They look for violations of building codes, but home inspectors do not have the power to enforce compliance with the codes. Mechanical inspectors examine the installation of HVACR systems and equipment to ensure that they are installed and function properly. They also may inspect commercial kitchen equipment, gas-fired appliances, and boilers. Mechanical inspectors should not be confused with quality control inspectors , who inspect goods at manufacturing plants. Plan examiners determine whether the plans for a building or other structure comply with building codes. They also determine whether the structure is suited to the engineering and environmental demands of the building site. Plumbing inspectors examine the installation of systems that ensure the safety and health of drinking water, the sanitary disposal of waste, and the safety of industrial piping. Public works inspectors ensure that the construction of federal, state, and local government water and sewer systems, highways, streets, bridges, and dams conforms to detailed contract specifications. Workers inspect excavation and fill operations, the placement of forms for concrete, concrete mixing and pouring, asphalt paving, and grading operations. Public works inspectors may specialize in highways, structural steel, reinforced concrete, or ditches. Others may specialize in dredging operations required for bridges, dams, or harbors. Specification inspectors ensure that construction work is performed according to design specifications. Insurance companies and financial institutions also may use their services. Some building inspectors are concerned with fire prevention safety. Fire inspectors and investigators ensure that buildings meet fire codes. Work Environment

for Construction and Building Inspectors[ [About this section](#) ] [ [To Top](#) ] Construction and building inspectors hold about , jobs. The largest employers of construction and building inspectors are as follows:

## Chapter 7 : Improving Relations Between Building Inspectors and Pro Contractors

*NOTE: State license renewal information is provided as a convenience only and is subject to change at any time. It is the ultimate responsibility of the individual to be sure that he or she is meeting continuing education requirements for each license and corresponding renewal period.*

Are you interested in building structure and design? Are you familiar with Building Code? Can you interpret construction drawings? Can you write technical reports? Do you enjoy working with a wide range of people? Can you successfully deal with conflict? If the answer to these questions is yes, then a career as a Building Inspector could be right for you. They also conduct on-site inspections to ensure that actual building construction is in compliance with Building Code. Normally this work takes place prior to and during new construction or renovation. Building inspectors are normally employed by federal, provincial and municipal governments, and in some cases, they may be employed by construction companies, architectural firms and civil engineering consulting firms. Duties Building inspectors perform some or all of the following duties: Examine plans, drawings and site layouts for new buildings, building renovations and other proposed structures to ensure compliance with Building Code Inspect construction of buildings to ensure that it complies with Building Code Inspect and test electrical or plumbing installations in buildings to ensure compliance with municipal, provincial and federal regulations Inspect steel framework, concrete forms, reinforcing steel mesh and rods, concrete or pre-stressed concrete to ensure quality standards and to verify conformance to specifications and building codes Work Conditions Building inspectors who review plans normally work in an office, while those who perform building inspections spend a lot of time out on construction sites. As with all careers in the construction industry, safety is the top priority. While on construction or other job sites, building inspectors must be aware of and comply with all relevant safety policy and procedures. For more information visit [www.completionofsecondaryschool.com](http://www.completionofsecondaryschool.com). Completion of secondary school is required. College diploma in construction, civil engineering or architectural technology plus several years of related work experience, or several years of experience as a qualified tradesperson in a construction trade, such as plumbing, carpentry or electrical trade are required. Provincial certification in a skilled trade or as an engineering technologist may be required. Salary The salary range listed here is based on national averages and includes all experience levels, from first-year apprentices through to highly experienced journeypersons. Wages can vary depending on the contract, company, location and collective agreements if applicable , as well as local and national economic conditions. Overtime is not included.

## Chapter 8 : Being A Building Inspector: What You Really Do

*The most stressful part of the building permit process is usually the blog. quintoapp.com make sure that construction complies with building codes, municipalities send an inspector to the job site to examine what's been done.*

Part 3 in a series. By Ed Vitale A successful owner-builder develops a good relationship with the local building inspector. The series of informative pieces was written by Ed Vitale, an attorney who specialized in real estate and building construction during most of his ten years of private practice. So read on as Ed [1] investigates in detail the four major model building codes used in this country, especially as they apply to the activities of the owner-builder, [2] gives you concrete explanations and examples of "how to read the code", [3] reviews the statutory and administrative framework of the construction and sanitary codes of four representative states, and [4] generally lays down criticism, comments, and plain good help for anyone contemplating the construction of his or her own shelter. He is either characterized as the protector of the public safety or the roadblock that prevented you from building your dream house. He is either the unfeeling, freedom-stifling symbol of governmental bureaucracy and red tape, or the knowledgeable, neighbor-like expert who helped you over some difficult construction problems. How do you handle him? He enforces the code. He receives the building permit application and issues permits. He issues notices to remove illegal or unsafe conditions. He has the right of entry to your property to enforce the code. He can issue stop-work orders when construction is unsafe or contrary to the code which, as the name so aptly states, stops all work on the project until the infraction is removed. This power to approve alternate materials and methods of construction is vital to the owner-builder. He initiates the necessary legal action to have code violators prosecuted in court. The SBC or UBC have no specific provisions that designate the building inspector as initiating legal action, but both codes, as well as the other two model regulations, have criminal penalties for violation of their rules. He also, as indicated earlier, decides if your plans and specs are "sufficiently clear", determines the value of your construction so as to set building permit fees, and really determines if your repairs of an existing structure are major enough to require a permit. Now you know why I stated, in Part Two of this series, that the building inspector is the code! The written word as contained in those rules and regulations gets bended, amended, changed, brought to life, made to fit unusual situations whatever you want to call it by what this man says. If he goes "by the book" you may not see the completion of your dwelling for a long time. Code-Reading Technique Whenever the building inspector rules against you in some particular, ask him for the specific section upon which he bases his opinion. Read the language of that provision carefully. That is, find out if and how he exercised his discretion in a similar situation in the past, and if he is ruling any differently in your particular circumstances. There are ways, which I will discuss later in this series, to appeal the decision of the building inspector. On a practical, everyday level, the building inspector as reported by Field and Ventre in their survey of building departments entitled "Local Regulation of Building Agencies, Codes, and Politics" published in the Municipal Yearbook has a much more difficult, tenuous existence. Seven out of eight building department heads serve at the pleasure of those who appoint them and this situation makes them sensitive to political pressure and the loss of their jobs. Field and Ventre also document other interesting facts in their survey: The most important thing to remember is that he is not in spite of what the codes say God-like. So what do you do? There are two overriding points that I would emphasize. Try to downplay that aspect of the conflict. He has more power at his disposal than you do! And, whatever it is you intend to build, make sure you know why the structure is safe. Beyond those two points, I think I can best help you if I briefly present some specific instances of how other owner-builders accomplished what they wanted from the building inspector. Each tale recounted here is as different as the building inspectors each of the following owner-builders faced. Les Scher, in his book Finding and Buying Your Place in the Country, relates the following confrontation between his friend Paul and a building inspector: A good friend of mine named Paul chose the exact opposite tactic in dealing with his local Building Inspector, who was one of the toughest I have met. When Paul bought his place the largest structure on the land was a big beautiful red barn which he wanted to convert into his family dwelling. Because a barn in the

eyes of the law is not meant to be a house, many problems were involved in meeting the requirements of the building codes. Knowing in advance that he would meet the Building Inspector sooner or later, Paul went to his office and told him what he was going to do. Then he began to modify the barn and make it his home. The inspector came to make an inspection and then began appearing as a regular basic. So Paul decided to give him some of his own medicine. Any time he began a new part of his remodeling, like a new wall, floor, beam, ceiling, ear fireplace, he called up the Building Inspector and asked him what kind of materials he should use, how much he should buy, what kinds of nails or cement he should get, and how he should do the job. After several weeks of constant phone calls, the inspector had had enough. Stop calling and bothering me. As long as nobody is going to see your house and complain about it and his job will not be jeopardized, he will probably leave you alone. The more severe the code, the more lenient the inspector knows he has to be with variations. You are going to be an asset to the community. You have money to spend and will be able to pay taxes. Your house as planned will beautify the town, not sully it. You will find that the building inspector is a fine source of information on soil conditions, seasonal ground water changes, prevailing winds, and local sources of good quality lumber. You will find the members of the building appeals board most sympathetic with your ambition to put up a fine, big, handsome house by construction methods of your own choosing. City hall will throw the book at you. River, in her book *Dwelling*, recorded some very pertinent conversations with owner-builders and their approach to building inspectors: Clancy, well-known builder of code and non-code dwellings, says: Then you can help him out by changing the subject. He drove his truck through my property-there was no gate at the time. And then turned the building into what I wanted. That was the only time they came to the farm. The barn was built before they changed the rules: I only got mad once. The inspector came in the gate and Barbara met him. He said he wanted to take a look around. I called them and told them to stay out of the farm unless they were invited in. Nobody can appear at the farm without calling me. Since that call, no one has come. It is interesting to learn that the former head of the building department is now selling Challenger Homes. Do your homework carefully before approaching the inspector. Try to locate someone who has dealt with him to find out what he is like. It might also pay to have a friend test the waters by going in and asking questions concerning a mythical small house in another part of town. Since the husband has a full time job, his wife has done a great deal of the work on their new homes. Dealing with a woman who was knowledgeable on construction matters was such a novel experience that the building inspector was too flustered to be nasty. He needs to feel important. Flatter him, ask his advice. Also bear in mind that it is your tax dollars that are paying his salary, and he is there to serve you. Excerpts from and references to the following books are reprinted by permission of the publishers: *One- and Two-Family Dwelling Code*, Edition, published by all, and available from any, of the four model code groups listed here. *Cost: Dwelling*, by River quotes are taken from pages Evans and Company, Inc. *Agencies, Codes, and Politics*" by Charles G. Field and Frank T. Other useful sources are: *Codes and Code Administration: They have taught me how to do most of the things that I need to know. I am going to build my own house by following their guidelines. I am pretty sure that it will be up to code at that point. I found a great resource for folks building their own home*

### Chapter 9 : Construction and Building Inspectors: Jobs, Career, Salary and Education Information

*Building inspection is an important occupation for society as determining the suitability of a structure for occupancy is crucial for the safety of all who many live, work, and/or play in the area. There are many facets that the inspector.*

Being A Building Inspector: Is This Right For Me 6. Related Careers In this job description guide, you will find out what do Construction and Building Inspectors do and what is their typical work day like. After reading this, you will have a much better idea on whether you will like working as a Construction and Building Inspector or not. Job summary Building Inspectors inspect structures using engineering skills to determine structural soundness and compliance with specifications, building codes, and other regulations. Inspections may be general in nature or may be limited to a specific area, such as electrical systems or plumbing. We asked Building Inspectors how satisfied they are with their job. Here is what they said. Become one Interested in becoming A Building Inspector? Find the right schools that can help you to become one. This service is free thanks to our sponsors. Click to start becoming a Construction and Building Inspector Typical day On a daily basis, Building Inspectors Inspect bridges, dams, highways, buildings, wiring, plumbing, electrical circuits, sewers, heating systems, or foundations during and after construction for structural quality, general safety, or conformance to specifications and codes. They Maintain daily logs and supplement inspection records with photographs. Some may also Inspect and monitor construction sites to ensure adherence to safety standards, building codes, or specifications. In a normal work day, another thing that Building Inspectors do is they Issue permits for construction, relocation, demolition, or occupancy. In addition to that, they Monitor installation of plumbing, wiring, equipment, or appliances to ensure that installation is performed properly and is in compliance with applicable regulations.. A typical day for A Building Inspector look like this: Inspect work sites to identify potential environmental or safety hazards. Inspect plumbing systems or fixtures. Test electrical equipment or systems to ensure proper functioning. Record operational or environmental data. Review blueprints or specifications to determine work requirements. Evaluate construction projects to determine compliance with external standards or regulations. We asked some Building Inspectors a few questions to find out what else does their work day look like. Here is what we found. Do you have telephone conversations everyday in this job? They might also Conduct environmental hazard inspections to identify or quantify problems such as asbestos, poor air quality, water contamination, or other environmental hazards. On a weekly to monthly basis, Building Inspectors Confer with owners, violators, or authorities to explain regulations or recommend remedial actions. A typical week or month for them might include: Verify alignment of structures or equipment. Evaluate projects to determine compliance with technical specifications. Measure work site dimensions. Communicate with clients about products, procedures, and policies.