





HIA vs Master Builders Contract: Which is Better for Homeowners?

Building your own home is a big dream for many people. But, before you start, it's important to understand the different types of contracts available for residential construction projects in New South Wales, Australia. Two of the most commonly used contracts are the HIA (Housing Industry Association) and the MBA (Master Builders Association) contracts. In this article, we'll help you understand the key differences between these two contracts, so you can make an informed decision on which one is right for you.

What are HIA Contracts?

HIA contracts are created by the <u>Housing Industry Association</u>, a national organization that represents residential builders and suppliers. These contracts are widely used in the residential construction industry and are thought to be biased in favor of the builder. HIA contracts are widely accepted by banks and financial institutions.

What are MBA Contracts?

MBA contracts, on the other hand, are developed by the <u>Master Builders Association</u>, a state-based organization that represents builders and contractors in the construction industry. These contracts are also commonly used in residential construction and are considered to be fairer to homeowners compared to HIA contracts. However, MBA contracts still have a bias in favor of the builder.

What are the Differences between HIA and MBA Contracts?

Both HIA and MBA contracts in NSW cover all aspects of a construction project, including the scope of work, completion date, and total cost. However, there are some important differences to consider. HIA contracts are more comprehensive and favor the builder, while MBA contracts provide homeowners with more opportunities to manage the work and <u>resolve disputes</u>. For example, the notice period to terminate an MBA contract is more than 20 days and both parties are required to meet and attempt to resolve their dispute. In contrast, the notice period under an HIA contract is only 10 days, and there is no requirement for the parties to meet and resolve their dispute.







Making the Right Choice for Your Home Building Project

When it comes to your dream home, it's important to take your time and understand the terms and conditions of your contract. We recommend seeking legal advice and only working with builders who are willing to use the Office of Fair Trading Contract. Before you sign any construction contract, have it reviewed by a construction lawyer.

Need Help from a Contracts Specialist in NSW?

Building your own home is a big investment. Don't leave it to chance. Contact our <u>specialist</u> <u>construction lawyer</u> to schedule a consultation. We'll help you understand the terms and conditions of your contract and ensure it meets your specific needs and preferences. Trust the professionals to guide you through the process of building your dream home.