Colorado Fence Quote Comparison Worksheet

Give every contractor the same footage, height, material, gates and tear-out. Fill one column per bid. Circle anything that's blank or "not stated" and ask about it before you pay a deposit.

What to compare	Bid A	Bid B	Bid C
Company name			
Total price ($)			
Linear feet on the quote			
Price per foot (total / feet)			
Material, grade and height			
Post type and hole depth			
Concrete in every post hole? Yes / No / Not stated			
Gates included (number and width)			
Old fence removal and haul-away included? Yes / No / Not stated			
Contractor pulls the permit, fee included? Yes / No / Not stated			
Contractor files the Colorado 811 locate? Yes / No / Not stated			
Showed proof of liability insurance? Yes / No / Not stated			
Written workmanship warranty (years)			
Deposit asked up front (%)			
Start window in writing			

Red flags to ask about: no permit in the price · no proof of liability insurance · no written workmanship warranty · a large deposit before work starts · a bid far below the others with no explanation · a price given without measuring or seeing photos.

Educational worksheet from Colorado Fence Contractors (coloradofencecontractors.com), an independent directory. We don't install fences or endorse any contractor. Confirm permits and rules with your city and HOA.

How to Choose a Fence Contractor in Colorado: Checklist

Before anyone comes out

[ ] Measure your fence line (linear feet) and count gates.
[ ] Decide height and material, and check your HOA's rules in writing.
[ ] Look up your city's permit rules. Some cities permit every fence, others only taller ones.
[ ] Shortlist three companies with strong, recent reviews near you.

Questions for every contractor

[ ] How deep are the posts set, and how do you handle clay that swells and shrinks?
[ ] Is concrete used in every post hole? What post size and spacing for wind?
[ ] Who pulls the permit, and is the fee in the price?
[ ] Who files the Colorado 811 locate? How will you handle sprinkler lines 811 doesn't mark?
[ ] Is tear-out and haul-away of the old fence included?
[ ] Can I see your certificate of liability insurance?
[ ] What does your written workmanship warranty cover, and for how long?

Colorado-specific checks

[ ] Colorado has no statewide fence contractor license. Some cities require contractor registration before issuing a permit.
[ ] Expansive clay can swell up to 20% when wet (Colorado Geological Survey). Post depth matters.
[ ] Colorado law requires a locate request at least two full business days before digging.
[ ] Under HB24-1091, HOAs can't prohibit fire-hardened fencing materials.

Before you sign and pay

[ ] Materials listed by brand, grade and height.
[ ] Start window and expected duration in writing.
[ ] Payment schedule that keeps the final payment until after your walk-through and any city inspection.
[ ] Warranty terms written into the contract, not just promised.

Sources: Colorado 811 (colorado811.org), Colorado Geological Survey (coloradogeologicalsurvey.org), Colorado Division of Real Estate HB24-1091 advisory. Educational only, not legal advice.