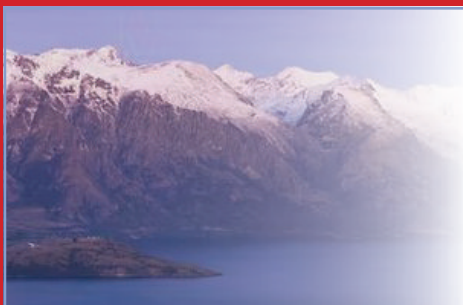


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This year's Handy Trades Booklet is packed with useful information about who to contact for all those jobs needed for both the interior and exterior of your home or property, whether it's in town or the country.

Notably, this year we've seen many businesses expanding their services to address the challenges of climate change, offering sensible and sustainable solutions.

We hope you'll keep this handy reference booklet nearby, as you never know when you might need to replace curtains, find a painter or paperhanger, replace a window, seek legal services, repair your vehicle, or call on a plumber, builder, or contractor. You'll find it an excellent guide for both the small and large jobs that arise around your home or property.

Queenstown and Arrowtown boast a vibrant building and construction industry, rich with innovation and expertise that is second to none. It's home to some of the country's best and most skilled tradespeople. Remember that builders and related professionals are often booked months in advance,

so it's wise to plan any major projects well ahead of time.

It's not just in times of emergency that we rely on skilled tradespeople—there are always projects to tackle, from home and garden renovations to vehicle servicing and repairs. You'll find everything you need right here in this trade directory.

Also, there are times when you need advice from professionals, whether a lawyer accountant or others. Their advice can be invaluable, saving you financially and avoiding stress.

All our advertisers have the knowledge and experience to work with our unique climatic conditions, ensuring their workmanship stands the test of time and protects our most important investments—our homes and properties.

If you contact any of our advertisers, please mention that you saw their advertisement in the 2026 Trades Booklet.



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Building or Renovating?

Your home isn't just a roof over your head; it's one of the biggest investments you'll ever make. Whether you're buying, building, or giving your current place a serious makeover, the journey should feel exciting, not overwhelming.

In recent years, getting into the property market hasn't been easy. That's why more people are thinking creatively, custom builds, clever renovations, and homes that truly reflect their personality. Building from scratch is like creating your own masterpiece. You get to choose the layout, the vibe, and all those minute details that make a house feel like your home. Want a kitchen that doubles as a social hub? Or a bathroom that feels like a spa? Go for it! And if you bring an architect on board, you'll add that extra layer of creativity and wow factor. Of course, it's not all sunshine

and mood boards. Building a home takes patience, planning, and the right team. Choosing a reputable builder is non-negotiable. Look for builders who are members of the Master Builders Association because that means you'll get the Master Build 10-Year Guarantee, the ultimate peace of mind.

Expect to see your plans in 3D concept; it's easier than squinting at flat blueprints. And your builder should handle all the boring stuff like permits and consents. They'll also bring in trusted tradies and keep standards sky-high, so you don't have to stress.

Need inspiration? Dive into Instagram and Pinterest for ideas, chat with an architect about your vision, hit up home shows for the latest trends, and tour local show homes to see quality in real life. The more you explore, the clearer your dream becomes.

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Building eco friendly

If you are looking at building a new home, before you even start with the planning, this is your chance to see what new, eco-friendly products are on the market that you can use in your new build. There are numerous material choices available, which means you can pick a product that best suits your circumstances and style of home.

Eco living has become a major priority for many people when building or renovating a new home. They are thinking more about what they walk on, breathe in and sleep on.

One of the things to consider when planning an eco-friendly home is making the most of natural light and ventilation within your new home. Creating a house which takes advantage of these natural resources makes your living environment healthier and more efficient.

Considering the material you use in your build, flooring, and cabinetry and checking out eco-friendly insulation will all add to making your new home healthier and greener.

Use your time to chat to builders as they can offer water saving ideas, advise you whether it would be viable to have solar power, ideas on lighting, alternative heating options and energy saving appliances. Some decisions need to be thought out, like window placement and designing the best use of light and heat, so that they can be captured. These are options builders are dealing with every day.

Good builders know it is just as important to reduce their carbon footprint and are aware of their impact on the environment while the construction phase is underway, as it is when they have built their client's home.



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Painters and Plasterers

When selecting a painter or plasterer, experience, workmanship, and professional reputation should be primary considerations. Engage a tradesperson who can demonstrate proven expertise in the specific services you require, whether interior or exterior work, renovations, new builds, or remedial repairs. Request examples of completed projects and seek client testimonials or references to assess reliability and consistency of finish.

In New Zealand, affiliation with recognised industry bodies such as the Master Plasterers or

the Painters Association of New Zealand reflects a commitment to professional standards, ongoing training, and adherence to best practice guidelines.

Plasterers play a vital role in preparing and restoring wall and ceiling surfaces, ensuring they are structurally sound, level, and ready for decoration. Painters then deliver the final aesthetic outcome, applying specialised coatings with precision and providing expert advice on colour selection, finishes, and surface protection to achieve a durable, high-quality result.

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Choosing Insulation

Ideally, the air temperature inside our homes should sit between 18 and 24°C. When temperatures drop below 16°C, the risk of respiratory illness increases, along with condensation that can lead to mold and mildew.

To be comfortable and healthy, homes need a good balance of insulation, ventilation, heating, and cooling. Improving these areas can make your home warmer, drier, and more energy efficient.

A good starting point is to have a specialist home assessment. These businesses can check your insulation, heating, ventilation, double glazing, LED lighting, and hot water cylinder, and then

offer tailored advice on the best solutions for your home.

It's very easy to light the fire, turn on the gas, or crank up the heat pump, but sometimes it pays to be a little more frugal with electricity use.

Window coverings play a surprisingly significant role in keeping warmth inside. Curtains with a thick lining or thermal backing make a real difference. You'll notice it immediately when you close them at night.

Finally, make sure all windows close properly and block off any unused fireplaces, as these can be a major source of heat loss.



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INTERIORS

Changing your décor doesn't need to be costly

Cushions, rugs, throws, chair covers, bedding, and pillows are all examples of what can be practical, comfortable, and decorative, making it so much easier to change the feel of your room from winter to summer.

While the trend for neutral interiors has long been a favourite, there are signs that this trend is making way for more colour in the form of paint and wallpaper. It's possible to brighten up a room by experimenting with colour and texture.

Sustainability is a consideration these days, and we're seeing natural materials coming to the fore, which might be explained by the need for people to feel more grounded. Popular colours appearing in homes are pastel hues, olive green and other colours related to nature. The humble pot plant is also making a comeback, and the selection in the garden centres has grown

considerably over the last couple of years. Wool-filled pillows and duvets are becoming a more popular choice when it comes to bedding.

Lighting, floor, and table lamps are being used more in the home, with some quirky table lamps now available, such as lamps with rabbit ears or even dogs with a light bulb in their mouths; it is all out there to be found.

Bedrooms are receiving much more attention these days, and there's plenty to enhance the decor, be it masculine, feminine or for the children. Bedding, duvet covers, pillows, lighting and cushions can transform a functional room into a comfortable haven.

Having favourite pieces of furniture, such as a couch or a special chair, reupholstered rather than throwing them out is another option. There are several experienced upholsterers still mastering this art locally.



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Nature-Inspired Interiors

Biophilic interior design is all about incorporating the natural world into everyday environments.

Whether you are giving your living room a refresh or doing a complete home overhaul, this design trend aims to create a direct connection with nature. This can be done by using an all-natural palette or bringing natural patterns and gorgeous organic textures into your design.

The more natural elements that you introduce into your home, no matter the size or amount, the more health and well-being benefits you unlock. You will notice that a lot of companies that are looking to boost employee engagement are keen to introduce this design into their workspaces.

As a homeowner or renter, there is no reason you can't use it just as effectively in your own home and enjoy the benefits at the same time.

If you want to introduce nature into your home, it is relatively easy to do. First of all, the colour palette needs to be warm but understated, what you would describe as earthy colours. These include various shades of brown, green, grey, taupe, and even mustard. When it comes to fabrics, cotton, linen, and wool are a suitable selection to start with. Indoor plants definitely make you feel like you have nature nearby, plus there are so many things you can gather from nature to add interest and enjoyment to your home.



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Property Management & Maintenance

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Managing a rental property can be time-consuming and often stressful, especially when balancing it with work, family, or other commitments.

A property manager takes care of the day-to-day tasks, such as advertising vacancies, screening tenants, scheduling repairs, and handling disputes, so you don't have to.

This frees up your time and removes the hassle of dealing with late-night maintenance calls or chasing overdue rent, allowing you to enjoy the benefits of your investment

without the added pressure.

Your own home

Sometimes we can just get overloaded with what needs to be done around the home, especially with our busy lives.

Why not think of hiring someone for some of those hard-to-do jobs that take up your limited spare time?

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While running an Airbnb or the like, can be rewarding financially, it can also be time-consuming and often stressful. Time can be taken up with guest communication, cleaning and compliance, and there's a lot to manage behind the scenes. If you are also running your home and working full time, you will find yourself stretched to the limit some days.

That's where professional property management can make all the difference and reduce that stress while giving you back your time.

Professional managers can be worth their weight in gold, as they know how to make the most from your listing with the right pricing, photography, and descriptions. They also adjust rates to match seasons and local events, ensuring you get the most from every booking.

It is so important to get valuable feedback from guests, and they expect quick responses, spotless accommodation, and hassle-free

check-ins. With 24/7 support and professional cleaning teams, property managers keep your guests happy and will hopefully return for a repeat stay.

Most Property Managers will handle any needed repairs that will keep your property in top shape and ensure you stay compliant.

One of the biggest benefits is knowing your investment is in safe hands, letting you relax, confident that both your property and your guests are being looked after. Especially an advantage if you live out of the region from where your investment is.

In many cases, owners find that even after management fees have been paid, their earnings increase thanks to higher occupancy, a higher percentage of repeat guests, and more efficient operations.

Hiring a property management company can easily turn your sometimes stressful investment into a smooth, profitable one.

**The Point is...
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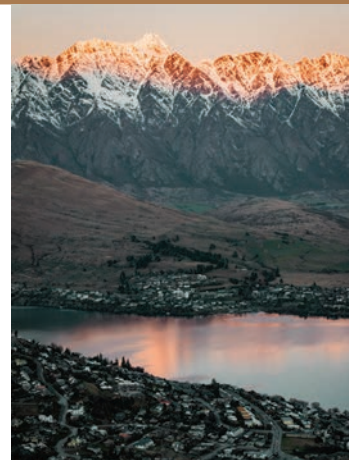
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ACCOUNTANTS

Using the services of professionals like lawyers, accountants, bookkeepers, and financial advisors offers several key benefits:

These professionals are trained and certified in their fields, which means they understand complex laws, tax codes, financial regulations, and industry standards better than most non-experts. Their expertise and knowledge are invaluable.

Accountants and bookkeepers can manage financial records and reporting with precision, reducing the risk of errors that can lead to penalties or missed opportunities. It is all about accuracy and efficiency.

By outsourcing legal, financial, and administrative tasks, this frees up your time to focus on what you do best.

Professionals can identify legal or financial risks early and help you

avoid costly mistakes, audits, or legal disputes.

Advisors and accountants can help you plan for growth, optimise your taxes, and make informed decisions that align with your goals. They are good sounding boards when decisions are to be made.

When it comes to compliance, legal and financial professionals ensure you're meeting obligations and deadlines, such as filing taxes, managing payroll, or adhering to business laws.

Knowing that qualified professionals are handling crucial aspects of your life or business can significantly reduce stress and uncertainty, giving you peace of mind.

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Law and Immigration

Are you considering making New Zealand your new home, or seeking help with employer accreditation? Maybe you want to pursue a temporary visa or are interested in exploring your resident visa options. Then, using a dedicated Law and Immigration business will assist you in navigating your immigration journey with ease and confidence.

Tackling New Zealand's immigration law can often feel like being in a maze. The rules can be complex and change often, which can be very overwhelming if you're

just trying to make this beautiful country your home.

But it doesn't have to be this way. Dedicated businesses understand the intricacies of immigration law and make the process easier for you.

Licensed immigration advisers can provide accurate and timely advice that's tailored to your unique situation.

They can turn an overwhelming journey into a stress-free experience, enabling you to focus on the exciting opportunities that you can look forward to in your new life in New Zealand.



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Health & Beauty

It is so important we care for ourselves!

Maintaining a healthy and youthful appearance requires consistent care and informed lifestyle choices, particularly in New Zealand, where the sun can be especially harsh.

In today's busy world, nothing feels quite as relaxing as a fresh haircut or a little beauty pampering.

We all have days when we feel exhausted, stressed, or just overwhelmed. It's easy to get swept up in the daily hustle and forget to take care of ourselves. But self-care is essential for our mental

health and overall well-being, and pampering plays a big part in that.

Whether it's your feet, face, hands, legs, or hair—they all deserve some love!

Seasonal changes also influence how we care for ourselves. During the cooler winter months, when reduced sunlight may affect mood and energy levels, restorative treatments and high-quality skincare can provide both physical and psychological benefits.

Add a bit of yoga or Pilates into the mix, and you'll be glowing inside and out!



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