EVALUATING IN-HOME CARE OPTIONS
20 Questions To Ask

Making The Right Decisions For Your Loved One

Carefully Evaluate Your Care Options
The journey of finding a care provider for yourself or a loved one can be overwhelming, especially due to numerous choices available to you. We’ve provided a helpful list of questions to guide your decision-making process.

Comfort Keepers® provides in-home care and is an excellent resource for individuals who wish to remain in the comfort of their own homes. We are committed to helping seniors by providing care and support that improves quality of life and enables independent living at home. We provide in-home care services on an ongoing or as-needed basis.

Comfort Keepers® Services

Personal Care
- Bathing, grooming, and hygiene
- Mobility assistance
- Transferring and positioning
- Toileting and incontinence care
- Feeding and special diet
- Dementia care
- Medication reminders

Care Services
- Companionship
- Meal preparation
- Laundry
- Light housekeeping
- Incidental transportation
- Grocery shopping
- Errand services
- Live-in services (where available)
- 24-hour care
- Respite care or relief for family

SafetyChoice® Technology
- Personal emergency response system (PERS)
- Portable PERS with GPS
- Medication dispenser solutions
- Bedside pressure mats

Private Duty Nursing Care
Available in many locations.

Please discuss your requests with us as services vary by location and state.

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### 20 QUESTIONS TO ASK POTENTIAL CARE PROVIDERS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Question</th>
<th>Agency A</th>
<th>Agency B</th>
<th>Agency C</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1. Does your agency offer the opportunity to meet your caregiver prior to receiving their services?</td>
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<td>2. Does your agency carry liability coverage?</td>
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<td>3. Does your agency conduct national and local criminal background checks and driving records of all employees?</td>
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<td>4. Are caregivers employees of your company (not contractors) and protected by Workers’ Compensation?</td>
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<td>5. Are caregivers bonded and insured for theft?</td>
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<td>6. Does your agency have a systematic method for tracking caregiver arrival and departure times at the client’s home?</td>
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<td>7. Does your agency provide 24/7 telephone service?</td>
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<td>8. Does your agency provide backup coverage in the event a caregiver cannot make it to work?</td>
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<td>9. Does your agency require a minimum number of hours per shift? If so, what is the minimum?</td>
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<td>10. Does your agency’s services include Personal Care such as bathing, incontinence care, and mobility assistance?</td>
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<td>11. Does your agency provide transportation services for clients?</td>
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<td>12. Does your agency maintain a business office where I can meet the office staff?</td>
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<td>13. Does your agency have an administrative staff I may contact for information? Does your agency have a nurse on staff?</td>
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<td>14. Does your agency provide in writing the plan for care services, and clearly describe all rates and fees?</td>
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<td>15. Does your agency make periodic supervisory visits to a client’s home?</td>
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<td>16. Can your agency provide documentation explaining the client’s rights, your code of ethics, Workers’ Compensation and HIPAA compliance?</td>
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<td>17. Can your agency provide emergency monitoring systems, medication solutions and other safety technology?</td>
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<td>18. Will your agency provide a Free in-home assessment prior to starting service?</td>
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<td>19. How quickly can your agency initiate service?</td>
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<td>20. Does your agency provide training to caregivers including orientation and ongoing education?</td>
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Before you can determine how to select the right care provider, you must first decide when it’s time to introduce care. The following questions can help you make this important decision:

- Has there been a recent emotional or medical crisis?
- Does the individual bathe less often, or not at all?
- Are pills left over or running out too soon?
- Does the individual need help walking?
- Is he/she verbally or physically abusive?
- Is he/she becoming more forgetful?
- Have there been recent falls?
- Is your loved one having problems sleeping?
- Has there been recent weight loss?
- Is his/her hearing or vision affecting the ability to function?
- If he/she smokes, are there burn marks?
- Is your loved one able to do errands alone?
- Is clothing being changed daily?
- Are there scorch marks on the pot holders or dish towels?
- Are there signs of burnt pans on the stove?
- Is routine house cleaning not being done?
- Have social activities stopped or diminished?

If you checked even one of these questions, perhaps it is time to consider in-home care. But before you select your care provider, make sure you ask the right questions.