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## Getting help at home

A comparison of three methods for finding contractors and other home-service providers, ranging as far as Santa impersonators.

	<b>Angie's List</b>	<b>Home Works Sourcebook</b>	<b>Service Magic</b>
<b>Base</b>	Indianapolis	Boston	Denver
<b>Founded</b>	1995	2002	1999
<b>Providers</b>	20,000-30,000	125 in Metro West, almost 100 in Boston	42,000
<b>Greater Boston providers</b>	Not available	125 in Metro West, almost 100 in Boston	1,200
<b>Fee for consumers</b>	\$47 annually, plus \$10 sign-up fee	Guide costs \$6.95 at newsstands, \$2.50 more from website	None
<b>Fee for contractors</b>	None	Yes, via mandatory advertising	\$6-\$60, based on job size
<b>Service categories</b>	More than 200	About 70	About 500

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