House alarm: questions for the installer

An alarm backs up good locks; it does not replace them. Get at least three quotes, ask each installer every question, and compare the answers overleaf.

Ask each installer

		Answered?	A	B	C
1	What is your PSA licence number? Check it yourself on the PSA register: the name, the intruder alarm category and the expiry date.		☐	☐	☐
2	Can I have your quote in writing? Get at least three, so you can compare like with like.		☐	☐	☐
3	Does the system meet EN 50131, and which grade is it? Ask why that grade suits this house. EN 50131 is the standard the Gardaí recommend, and one of their conditions for responding.		☐	☐	☐
4	Wired or wireless, and why for this house? The Gardaí say the choice can depend on cost, the design of your home, where it is, and whether it is already wired.		☐	☐	☐
5	Will it be monitored? By which company, and what will monitoring cost each year? Check the monitoring company on the PSA register too, and get the yearly cost in writing.		☐	☐	☐
6	Will this system qualify for a Garda URN? Only a URN guarantees a Garda response. It needs an approved standard, installer and monitoring company.		☐	☐	☐
7	Does it use dual verification? The Gardaí say every alarm system should have it.		☐	☐	☐
8	When it goes off, who is told, and how? Agree your keyholders. An auto-dialler must not be set to call the Gardaí.		☐	☐	☐
9	Will you show everyone in the house how to use it? The Gardaí say to insist on a training session.		☐	☐	☐
10	What servicing does it need, how often, and at what cost?		☐	☐	☐
11	What does my insurer need? Ask your insurer before you sign, and give the installer the answer.		☐	☐	☐

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Compare the answers

	Installer A	Installer B	Installer C
Company name and phone			
PSA licence number			
Checked on the PSA register	☐	☐	☐
Quote in writing	☐	☐	☐
EN 50131 grade			
Wired or wireless			
Monitored by company			
Monitoring cost each year			
Can get a Garda URN	☐	☐	☐
Dual verification	☐	☐	☐
Training for everyone	☐	☐	☐
Servicing how often, cost			
Price quoted in total			
Notes anything else			

Never write your alarm code on this sheet, on the manual, or anywhere near the keypad.

One thing to do first

Look up every installer on the PSA register before they quote: psa-gov.ie, “PSA Registered Contractors”. Check the name, the intruder alarm category and the expiry date.

- **Free advice:** ask your local Garda Crime Prevention Officer, and ask your insurer what it needs.

This sheet: safeandsecure.ie/resources/printables/house-alarm-installer-questions
Last checked 7 October 2026
Sources: An Garda Síochána, leaflet HS4 Intruder Alarms (August 2020) and Securing your home (garda.ie); Private Security Authority (psa-gov.ie); CCPC (ccpc.ie)

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