Your Ideal Customer? Customer Types :

A list of different types of customers you might come across as a tradesperson-

Choose who you would want to work with, and aim your marketing at them.



Residential Customers

(Payment on completion - materials can be fronted by you or them.)

- ✓ Homeowner Cares about their property, usually long-term thinking.
- ✓ Landlord Wants cost-effective, durable solutions; values speed and legal compliance.
- ✓ Tenant (via landlord) Often not the one paying, but still has opinions!
- First-Time Buyer Excited, slightly clueless, often needs guidance.
- ✓ Retired Resident Values politeness, reliability, and cleanliness.
- ✓ DIY Enthusiast May want help "finishing" a project that got out of hand.

(Payment in 30-60 days - you front materials)

- ✓ Managing Agent Organised, often juggling multiple properties; wants good communication.
- ✓ Estate Agent Usually wants a quick fix to help sell/rent a place. Deadline-driven.
- ✓ Lettings Agent Focuses on functionality, speed, and cost to get tenants in fast.
- ✓ Property Developer Budgetfocused but usually understands trade value.
- ✓ Housing Association Bureaucratic but can lead to repeat work.

Commercial Clients

(Longer Payment terms)

- ✓ Shops & Retail Units Often need work done out of hours to avoid disruption.
- Restaurants & Cafés Timesensitive; often need kitchen/gas/electrical work urgently.
- ✓ Offices Need to meet H&S standards and minimise staff disruption.
- ✓ Warehouses & Industrial Focus on safety, efficiency, and compliance.
- Schools or Nurseries Must be DBS-checked and work to tight schedules (e.g. holidays).
- ✓ Care Homes Respect, sensitivity, and cleanliness essential.

Other Client Types

- ✓ Insurance Work Clients Expect you to deal with the insurer; paperwork-heavy.
- ✓ Architect/Designer Referral Often high-end, with a focus on precision and aesthetics.
- ✓ Friend of a Friend Casual intro, but still expects 5-star results.
- ✓ Facebook Group Lead Found you in a local group. Budget varies, trust is key.
- ✓ Neighbour of Previous Customer Great if you impressed next door!