

## Raising standards in the world of surveying – *globally*

**RICS** (Royal Institution of Chartered Surveyors) is the leading organisation of its kind in the world for professionals in property, land, construction and related environmental issues. As part of our role we help to set, maintain and regulate standards – as well as providing impartial advice to governments and policymakers. RICS has **140,000 members** who operate out of **146 countries**, supported by an extensive network of regional offices located in every continent around the world.

To ensure that our members are able to provide the quality of advice and level of integrity required by the market, RICS qualifications are only awarded to individuals who meet the most rigorous requirements for both education and experience and who are prepared to maintain high standards in the public interest. With this in mind, it's perhaps not surprising that the letters RICS are the mark of property professionalism worldwide.

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## WHY USE A CHARTERED BUILDING SURVEYOR?

‘Chartered’ is the mark that shows a surveyor has achieved the ‘gold standard’ of professional competence.

A Chartered Building Surveyor will have been assessed by a peer group of experienced professionals and judged to have the blend of technical and commercial skills and experience required to operate at the highest level in today’s property and construction markets.

Chartered Building Surveyors can (and do!) add value to the development equation through their unique blend of **construction knowledge, design flair and property expertise**. For example, at concept design stage they can provide strategic advice on schematic development plans; at detailed design stage they can advise on alternative design options; or, alternatively they can advise clients before a commitment is made to purchase a real estate asset. The peace of mind that this gives their clients should not be underestimated.

Whilst some Chartered Building Surveyors take a generalist approach, others choose to specialise. Clients, therefore, can select the most appropriate professional for the job in hand – a generalist, perhaps, to oversee a small project or house extension or a specialist in conservation for a listed building conversion.

Whether a client chooses a generalist or specialist the quality of service should not change. Chartered Building Surveyors are expected to provide a consistently high level of service on all types of project throughout their professional life.

The benefits of using a Chartered Building Surveyor are too numerous to cover here but typically include all of the following:

- Added value design solutions
- Increased certainty that building will be completed on time and within budget
- Increased confidence that the surveyor has acquired the skills and expertise required to deliver the service required
- Confidence that the surveyor has adequate professional indemnity insurance
- Access to an independent complaints handling procedure.

For more information on Chartered Building Surveyors please visit our website at [www.rics.org/buildingsurveyor](http://www.rics.org/buildingsurveyor)