

PRO vs. DIY

Top 10 reasons to hire a professional:

1. In your day job you're a business tycoon, you're used to running your own corporation. But you're NOT A WATER GARDEN INSTALLER!
2. You're 42 years old, 30 lbs. overweight, you haven't been near the gym in many months, and this is PHYSICAL LABOR!
3. When you consult outside of your day job you get \$75/hr. And you can hire this job done for \$50/hr. So, when you look at it this way, YOU'RE LOSING MONEY!
4. But you'll save two or three thousand bucks by doing it yourself, right? That's what your spouse says anyway. But, in the last point, we decided for absolutely certain that you'd be losing money. So who's right? Right?
5. You know that a well-trained crew can put this thing together easily in less than a week! You know down deep in your heart it will take you at least four weekends. And you'd still be just hoping to get it right. Think about the last time your spouse talked you into "doing it yourself." You ended up calling in the professional who had to clean up your mess before he could get started anyway.
6. Impressing your spouse and kids with your ability to multi-task gets lower and lower on your list as you consider all the possibilities.
7. Impressing your neighbors, the Joneses, with your ability to multi-task or anything else, has never enjoyed a position of priority in your life.
8. Your 9-year-old son who loves to play in the mud, provides you with all the fishing worms you'll ever need.
9. You're not a sado-masochist! The average do-it-yourselfer builds three ponds (or the same one three times) before they get it right.
10. But what the heck would John Wayne do? What would Clint Eastwood, or Bruce Lee, or Rambo, or General Schwarzkopf, or Arnold Schwarzenegger do? I'll tell you what they'd do. THEY'D HIRE A PROFESSIONAL TO DO THE JOB. THAT'S WHAT THEY'D DO! Now these boys (John, Clint, etc.) are all rugged individualists for sure. But they aren't stupid, right?

Top 10 reasons to do it yourself...

1. You aren't too terribly concerned with saving money, as long as you're having a good time.
2. When you consult, you only make \$50/hr., so it's a wash anyway.
3. You're not challenged when it comes to reading directions.
4. You don't care if you get it done in one day or one summer. After all, you're having a good time.
5. Who the heck are the Joneses anyway? They wouldn't know a good time if it hit 'em between the eyes with a two-by-four.
6. You really can't think of a better way to burn calories.
7. You enjoy physical challenges and you look good in a sun tan, too!
8. You love planning, tinkering with, and designing things. So whether you get it right the first time, or forty-first time is fairly inconsequential.
9. You take great genuine pleasure in creating something of beauty with your own two hands, and having others enjoy it as well.
10. Your spouse expects you to build a water garden! (You really don't have to confess to this one out loud, or anything like that.)
11. Now, if this latter description fits you, then go ahead and have at it. You may be fiddling around with it all summer, but you're the one who will enjoy the process immensely. That means that you are, in effect, a pond installer! Welcome to the club.