

Meet

Erik Tobiason
Contractor

Age: 57

Current Hometown:
Barnard, VT

Other Jobs Held:
dishwasher, prep cook,
grocery stocker

Hobbies/Interests: hiking,
traveling

Strengths: persistence,
attention to detail



Photo: Geoff Hansen

How do you use your strengths in your job?

I apply persistence to everything I do. It has carried my company through the last 37 years and several recessions. The attention to details that we demand gets us both new business and builds lasting relationships with our clients. Our reputation is based on doing superior work and training our crew to do the same.

What was your biggest learning challenge in school?

The biggest challenge was realizing how important school was. I wish I had paid more attention to the classes offered and taken school more seriously.

What motivates you to go to work?

I love what I do — especially when I encounter a challenge, a new style of building, or a new design. Overall, I like the work itself, and I enjoy working with the clients. I am fortunate to have a great group of people that I work with, which takes a lot of the pressure off me and makes the job enjoyable.

Every job has specific skills. What do you need in yours?

For my job, I need to be able to think practically and translate that into the actual work. I also need to be flexible in my thinking and able to work well with diverse personalities, in order to accomplish a common goal. Using these skills I have coordinated projects in the Amazon region of Peru and on top of mountains in the wilderness in Vermont.