

NEW ENERGY WORKS

DESIGN PROFILE

We ask our clients to consider these questions to better focus on the details to further help make the house your home. It is not a test so don't feel you have to answer every questions (some get a bit personal). Enjoy the exercise, and humor is welcomed.

- The architectural department of New Energy Works

Planning

1. Who are the projected residents?
2. Are there pets and/or livestock?
3. What is the projected length of occupancy of each resident?
4. What is the project budget?
5. What is the total square footage of the required living areas?
6. How did you arrive at this figure?
7. List any health related or other circumstances particular to you and your family that may affect design.
8. Should handicapped accessibility be a consideration?
9. Should expansion flexibility be a consideration?
10. What are your construction scheduling needs?

The Site

1. Will we use a septic system or is a municipal sewage hookup available?
2. What is the source of drinking water?
3. Will a driveway need to be built? If so, how long?
4. Is electricity readily available?
5. Is topography information available?

Vehicles and Equipment

1. What transportation and recreation vehicles, construction equipment, and farm/lawn/garden equipment do you need to store, and what kind of shelter is required?
2. Do you have a vehicle that can't fit under a 7' tall overhead door?

Utilities and Machines

1. How many TV's, phones and computers do you require and in what locations?
TV's
Phones
Computers
2. Is a fireplace, wood stove or masonry heater desirable?
3. What heat sources do you prefer? Oil, natural gas, propane or geothermal?
4. Do you require air conditioning?
5. Do you have any window preferences?
6. Do you cook with gas?
7. Are you considering a central vacuum system?

Miscellaneous

1. What should the predominate feeling of the house be?
2. What are the attributes of the timber frame that would help to achieve the above requirements?
3. Are there any specific rooms that you would like to have cathedral ceilings?
4. What image do you have of the house as you drive up to it?
5. Do you have any notions of the exterior materials one would see?
6. What other rooms or activity areas are necessary?
7. What guest accommodations are necessary?
8. Is additional storage space necessary?

9. How much interaction between the in-doors and out-of-doors is desirable, and in which rooms or spaces?
10. Do you like transitional outdoor spaces (like porches, patios and decks)?
11. Do you like a formal main entry and, if yes, can you describe it and who would use it?
12. Is there to be a secondary or social entry and, if so, what space(s) would you like to have it open into? Who will use it?
13. Do you see the exterior landscape as formal, casual, or natural?
14. What requirements do you have for outdoor activities?
15. What colors and textures do you like?

The Rooms

List the activities and the amount of time to be spent in the rooms/spaces listed, the approximate space required and the flooring material desired:

Living room/Great room

Family room

Kitchen

Mudroom / Laundry

Dining

Sunroom

Master Bathroom

Other Bathrooms

Utilities/Storage

Master Bedroom

Bedroom 1

Bedroom 2

Loft

Den

Ground floor walkout

INTERACTION WITH LIVING SPACE

Living Room and Family Room or Great Room

1. How do you want the living area(s) to feel?
2. Should it be separate or integrated into other living areas?
3. What activities take place in the living area?
4. How many people should it accommodate?
5. Should it have partitions and doors?
6. Should it be bright during the day?
7. Are there particular views or natural features of your site with which you want to interact from the inside?

Kitchen

1. What times of the day and to what extent do you use the kitchen?
2. How many people should be able to use the kitchen at the same time?
3. Who cooks?
4. Will the kitchen be used for eating as well as for cooking?
5. Should the kitchen be able to accommodate people gathering in it?
6. What appliances are necessary?
7. Do you require a double or single wall oven?
8. Is there an arrangement of appliances and work spaces that suits you best?
9. Are there particular size requirements for appliances?
10. Do you like to be able to look out of the window while working in the kitchen?
11. Do you like a bright or sunlit kitchen?
12. How do you deal with waste and garbage?
13. Where and how would you like to store your food?
14. How much cupboard, drawer and counter space do you need?
15. Do you like kitchen utensils, pots and pans to be visible or hidden?
16. What non-food items do you store in the kitchen?
17. Do you want a desk in the kitchen? A TV? Other non-kitchen items?
18. Should the kitchen be separated from the rest of the house or be open to other areas?

Dining

1. What sort of feeling should the dining area have?
2. Is the dining area a single or multi-purpose place?
3. Does a formal dining area need to be separate from the normal family dining area?
4. How many people should the dining area accommodate?
5. What furniture or storage requirements do you have for this room?
6. Should there be physical access to the outside from this room?

Master Bedroom

1. Do you like to wake up in a bright and or sunlit room?
2. Do you like to be able to look outside when lying in bed?
3. Do you have a water bed? If so, what are its dimensions and gallon capacity?
4. What is the size of the bed?
5. Do you prefer windows, a fan, or an air conditioner for air circulation?
6. What are the privacy requirements of the bedroom from the outside and from the rest of the house? What floor level is preferred?
7. What are the storage requirements?
8. Will dressers, chests of drawers and armoires be used for non-hanging clothes storage or will this type of storage be built in?
9. Do you like a separate dressing area?
10. Does the bedroom also need to function as a study, TV room, or sitting room?
11. Would you feel comfortable if the bedroom had a cathedral area, or would you prefer a flat ceiling?

Master Bathroom

1. What are the special qualities you like in a bathroom?
2. Does it need to be especially bright or roomy?
3. How private should the bathroom be from the rest of the house and from the outside?
4. Do you prefer fans or windows for air circulation?
5. Do you like to be able to see outside of a window while showering, washing, or using the toilet?
6. Do you use the bathroom in hurried or leisurely manner?
7. Do you prefer showers or baths?
8. Would you like room for more than one in the tub and/or shower?
9. Do you use the bathroom to dress or undress?
10. Do you have a preference for a particular brand of fixtures?
11. What requirements do you have for mirrors?
12. Do you prefer a linen closet in the bathroom?
13. What are your other storage requirements?
14. Do you like acrylic shower/tub units, solid surfacing or ceramic tiled shower walls?
15. Would you desire a separate shower?
16. Would you desire a whirlpool tub?

Other Bedrooms

1. Are bunk beds used?
2. What are the privacy requirements of the bedroom from the outside and from the rest of the house?
3. What are the storage requirements?
4. Will dressers, chests or drawers and armoires be free standing furniture or will the storage these provide be built in?
5. Do you like a separate dressing area?
6. Does the bedroom also need to function as a study, TV room, or sitting room?
7. What sleeping accommodations will be necessary for other family members in the future?

Other Bathrooms

1. Would there be a bathroom attached to one or more bedrooms?
2. How private should the bathroom be from the rest of the house and from the outside?
3. Do you need a bathroom easily accessible from the outside?

The last few questions

1. List the things that you can't do in your present environment that you would like to do in your new one.
2. Have you seen any New Energy Works houses?
3. Have you ever worked with an architect?
4. Have you built a home?
5. Has this survey been helpful?