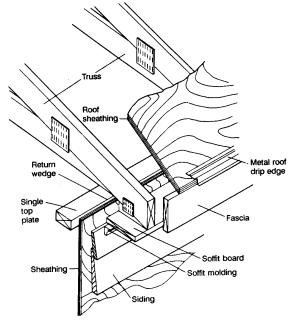
TECHLINEProperties and Use of Wood, Composites, and Fiber Products

Wood Frame House Construction



Wood Frame House Construction includes detailed drawings useful for construction.

Agriculture Handbook 73, Wood Frame House Construction, presents sound principles for homebuilding and guidelines for selecting materials that provide long service. As a construction guide, the manual discusses sound building practices for experienced builders, apprentices, and do-it-yourselfers. As a textbook, it provides basic information to the student. As a standard, it provides a basis for judging the quality of residential construction. Since its first edition in 1955, this manual has been the authoritative guide for wood-frame house construction.

The first chapter describes many factors to consider before construction even begins and suggests a general schedule for completion. Chapters 2 to 4 describe laying the groundwork, framing and closing in, and completing the shell. Chapter 5 discusses specialty items such as fireplaces, chimneys, porches, and driveways. The remaining chapters describe interior work, finishing touches, and special topics, such as protection from decay

and termites, noise control, and wind, snow, and seismic loads. The manual also provides an annotated bibliography and a glossary.

Completely rewritten in 1989, this 266-page manual reflects major new advances in homebuilding during the preceding decade. New features include the chapter on preconstruction planning and technical notes on concrete, treated wood, lumber and plywood grades, nail selection and use, heat flow, and insulation. The manual also contains additional information on new materials and the use of manufactured components, an expanded discussion of energy conservation and efficiency, tables of engineering design data for structural elements, and an expanded and annotated list of additional readings.

This revised edition draws upon the combined knowledge of industry and government to present the state of the art in wood home construction. The Research Center of the National Association of Home Builders and the USDA Forest Service, Forest Products Laboratory, jointly prepared the manual, with the cooperation of the Canadian Wood Council, American Forest and Paper Association, National Lumber and Building Materials Association, U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development, and many individual experts.

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