

20 good reasons to frame a home with metal and not wood



Why build your ADU with metal vs wood	Wood	Metal	Explanation
1 DIY Construction Benefit	☐	☒	The wall frames, trusses and beams can be erected in a just a few days
2 Minimal Construction Skills Required	☐	☒	Pre-assembled walls and trusses require no specialized skills to erect
3 Build as DIY, Hybrid or by a General Contractor	☐	☒	Do it yourself, Hybrid (involve special contractors) or hire a General Contractor
4 Build It As You Can Afford It	☐	☒	Impervious to Weather - build as you have the time and money
5 Up Front Cost of Framing Materials	☒	☐	As to only the framing material, wood is less expensive
6 Total Cost To Build	☐	☒	Savings in time, labor, and other areas make light gauge steel LESS expensive
7 Termites and wood boring insects	☐	☒	Termites, carpenter ants and wood boring insects eat wood, not metal
8 Mold resistant	☐	☒	Metal does not attract mold
9 Damage caused by exterior and interior flooding	☐	☒	Metal needs no reconditioning after a flood
10 Fire Resistant	☐	☒	Non-combustible
11 Lower insurance rates	☐	☒	Many insurance underwriters now provide lower rates for metal framed homes
12 Walls, trusses, and beams retain their original form	☐	☒	Perfectly straight walls - no shimming of drywall
13 Corners are 90 degrees	☐	☒	No need for templating of countertops to adjust for out of square corners
14 Strength and weight	☐	☒	Metal is stronger than wood and weighs less - no need for crane to lift ADU trusses
15 IBC Engineered Stamp	☐	☒	If an engineering stamp is necessary, months of waiting are saved
16 Complete BOM (Materials Shopping List)	☐	☒	Take the materials shopping list to Home Depot and start shopping/pricing
17 Flexible in Seismic Areas - Won't Fracture	☐	☒	Light gauge steel is flexible and won't fracture when the earth moves
18 No Waste At Job Site	☐	☒	Steel is the most recycled material in the world. A typical wood home has 20-30% waste
19 Environmentally Friendly	☐	☒	Trees don't have to be destroyed and the source of most metal is from recycling
20 How-To Videos Included	☐	☒	How-to videos provide simple assembly instructions
21 Relationship Counselor	☐	☒	Eliminate emotional upheavals - save time, money, and preserve the relationship

Universal Requirements - some or all may be required

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| 1 Site plan | 7 Earthquake (fault) evaluation |
| 2 Electrical Supply Connection | 8 Foundation Plan - subject to soils |
| 3 Sewer Connection | 9 Compliance with local energy codes: insulation home wrap and flashing |
| 4 Fresh Water Supply Connection | 10 Engineering for wind speed and snow load. |
| 5 Set Backs | 11 State and Local ordinances regarding ADUs |
| 6 Soils Evaluation | 12 Local Architect and/or Engineer may be necessary |