

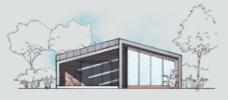


TIMBER FRAME SELF BUILD. YOUR HOME OUR PASSION.











































## HELLO!

One of the most rewarding aspects of self-building a home, is that you get to design every element yourself. From laying out your living spaces to suit the way you want to live your life, to how it looks and feels – you're in control. If you want a wet room off your utility to shower the dogs after long winter walks, then so be it. If you're lucky enough to have a plot that has tremendous views and want to situate your public rooms on the first floor – you can. Your self-build home is all about you and your lifestyle, which makes you the ideal person to take the lead on the design process.

But even when you know what you want, sometimes it can be hard to know how to get started. This brochure has been designed to help you do just that, and create some momentum for your self-build project at the same time. We've included a diverse range of house styles to help you refine your personal wish list and to give you a sense of what you can achieve in relation to floor area. We've also signposted some of the things that are key when it comes to the design process.

As you turn the pages we hope that you will be inspired to start sketching out your own ideas and complete our design brief questionnaire. There's more detailed information about working with the Fleming Homes' design team in the following pages, and if you have any questions, any one of the team would be delighted to speak to you.

We look forward to finding out more about your self-build project!

Happy designing,

8amh

Sarah Mathieson Managing Director





# MEET THE DESIGNERS

# **Bernard Buss, Head of Design**

Bernard has been designing timber frame homes for over 50 years. His vast portfolio includes hundreds of designs for clients throughout the UK and abroad. As Head of Design, Bernard oversees all Fleming Homes' design work ensuring our designs are bespoke to each individual client and that they meet the needs of today's self-builder.

Bernard was born in Kent and attended Maidstone College of Art, where he developed the freehand drawing style you can still see in his design work today. He began his career as a designer at W. H. Colt Son & Co Ltd, the UK's timber frame pioneers. Bernard later joined Robert H. Hall (part of the Austin Hall Group of Companies) designing schools, hospitals and other industrial buildings, broadening his knowledge and experience. In 1970, Bernard moved to Scotland and was one of the founding partners of Celtic Homes. In 1986, he became one of the founding directors and shareholders of T. Fleming Homes Ltd.

Bernard has served as the Chairman of SCOTFI (Scottish Consortium of Timber Frame Industries) and has many interests outside of work, in particular, motorsport. He is an Honorary Member of the SMRC (The Scottish Motor Racing Club) and has served a term as Chairman on two separate occasions.



# **David Loomis, Senior Designer**

Designing and drafting is in Dave's DNA. Like many budding designers, Lego was one of his major preoccupations as a child until he reached adolescence and discovered a catalogue of log cabins. Days of analysing floor plans and drawing up dream homes for his parents ensued. In high school, Dave took up drafting, graduating quickly to computer-aided design and later studying architecture at Drexel University, Philadelphia.

Romance and a Scottish wife then brought Dave to the Scottish Borders and Fleming Homes. We weren't hiring at the time, but when we received Dave's CV we knew we had to meet him and the rest, as they say, is history. Dave spent a formative few years mastering the technical side of the timber frame industry as a construction design technician before returning to his early passion; designing.

As a timber frame home designer, Dave recognises that to work properly, every individual material chosen has its own set of laws governing its use. Combining this knowledge, with an understanding of how humans function in space, has enabled Dave to develop into an intuitive and creative designer. He enjoys the challenge of marrying local architectural vernacular with a client's own personal design preferences, and loves nothing more than designing modern structures informed by the functional needs of the space inside. Dave's real passion? Exploring the latest design technologies to facilitate his love of blending multiple spaces into cohesive units for modern living.



### 6 ESSENTIALS FOR SELF-BUILD DESIGN SUCCESS.

Having a grasp of the general design principles that underpin a good self-build design is essential for a successful project. With over 50 years' experience designing timber frame homes, Bernard Buss outlines six essentials to consider before you get started!

- **1 Orientation optimisation** the orientation of your home influences multiple factors;
- Where practical, the rooms you intend to use most should be designed to face south/south west to maximise solar gain.
- Continuous wall areas are highly efficient, so maximising wall area
  on the colder north face has a significant impact. Keep north-facing
  windows to a minimum to improve thermal efficiency and only
  consider large windows if there are substantial views influencing the
  design.
- Designing your home for south-facing living will create spaces that benefit from natural light meaning less need for artificial light and energy.
- **2 Natural environs** the gradient of your site, the surrounding views, shelter and local vernacular architecture should all influence your design choices.
- **3 Planning** you can improve your chances of achieving your ideal design by understanding what is important to your local planning authority before you get started.

- **4 Utilities** design the layout of kitchens, bathrooms and utilities to minimise service and drainage runs and achieve cost efficiencies.
- **5 Heating** give early consideration to how you heat your home so that this can be incorporated into the design from the outset to achieve (more) cost efficiencies. The same applies to renewable energy systems.
- **6 Cost efficiency** a major benefit of self-building is the uplift in your investment once your project is complete. Building cost efficiencies into the early design phase through the integration of practical structural solutions can significantly reduce your total build cost.

Bernard and his team will help you navigate these and many more considerations to ensure you achieve a design that meets your needs, your budget and your site's full potential.

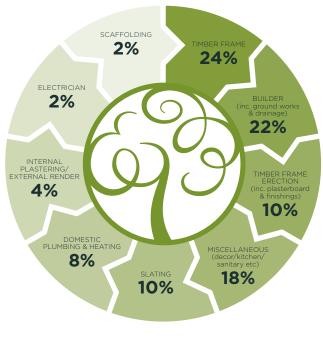












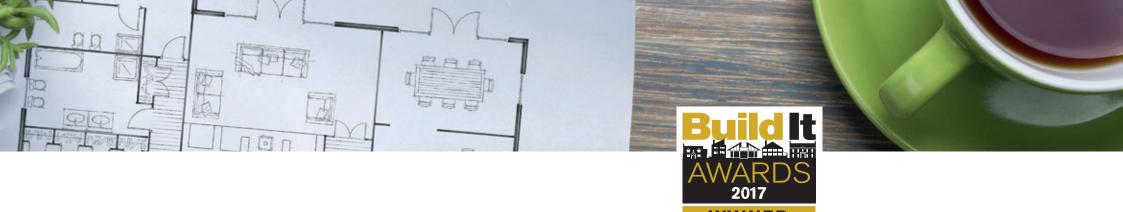
Here's how costs typically break down with a timber frame self-build home.

# MORE HELPFUL DESIGN HINTS

# Be clear on budget before you start

It's surprising how many people start designing their project before working out how much they can afford to spend. This can lead to unnecessary costs when designs need to be reworked later down the line. Our online cost calculator is an excellent way to get a sense of ball park costs in relation to floor area. Build a clear picture of what you can afford before you start at:

www.fleminghomes.co.uk/self-build-resources/cost-calculator/



# **OUR AWARD-WINNING DESIGN SERVICE**

Often, the best people self-builders can learn from, is other self-builders. With over 30 years in the timber frame industry we've met, and continue to work with, some exceptionally talented self-builders. Here's the story of how Paul and Rhian Bates designed and built their award-winning timber frame home.

Paul and Rhian Bates planned to build a spacious home to retire to after Paul's 30-year career in the fire service. Coming from such an active, high-pressure job, he certainly wasn't going to be twiddling his thumbs, so although the couple were new to self-building, they decided to manage the timber frame build project themselves.

Paul says timber frame was the natural choice. "We wanted speed of construction - weather is a big factor in this part of Wales. And we knew timber frame meant we could get what we wanted in terms of space, insulation and high-quality specifications at a good cost."

The Bateses started looking for a plot before Paul's retirement, with dreams of a large space in the Welsh countryside, plenty of garden and room for Paul's workshop. They eventually found the perfect plot in rural Carmarthenshire, occupied by a semi-derelict 1950s bungalow that was ripe for demolition.

#### Benefits of full timber frame service

Paul met Fleming Homes' Sales Manager, Jason, at The National Self Build & Renovation Centre in Swindon, and was impressed by the company's service ethos. "I could tell Fleming Homes would hold my hand during the process. They weren't the least expensive company, but they took us through planning and regulations, which can be tricky in rural Wales. They also did the building calculations, and as the build progressed, their service was fantastic."

**Best Timber Frame** 

Fleming Homes' full self-build service was particularly valuable to Paul, as he wasn't an experienced DIY-er. "I was prepared to be very hands on – I did a lot of standing in trenches in mud, up to my neck in cement and breeze blocks! But I was new to the self-build process. Luckily, I had an expert builder. Dylan has 25 years' experience in the old-school Welsh ways, prioritising insulation and airtightness."



#### Bat roost and planning compliance

The dream building plot in rural Wales turned out to be far from straightforward. Says Paul: "It was a difficult site to buy, as the owner had died, and the beneficiaries were in dispute. Then we discovered a bat maternity roost in the loft. Planning permission was conditional on solving this. We employed a consultant recommended by Natural Resources Wales, but it was a difficult relationship, with costly ecosurveys, and significant delay costs. We felt there had to be a more practical balance. In the end, we saved time and money by building a direct relationship with the local council, who were very helpful".

#### Designing a timber frame home from scratch

The Bateses meanwhile finalised their design, together with the team at Fleming Homes. "Rhian had more input on the design and aesthetic side. We gave our ideas to Fleming Homes – just rough sketches – then they emailed us back designs. Over six months, we scribbled on the sketches and refined the designs. There was never a complaint about how long it took – I'm not sure we'd have got that service from every timber frame company!"

The house is basically two houses in one, says Paul. "It has a semi-traditional frontage in Welsh local brown and blue-grey stone with a crisp render finish and a Welsh slate roof in keeping with the local aesthetic. The back is more contemporary, with lots of glass and grey windows. We have three bedrooms in a six-bed size – we wanted it to feel really spacious."

After the meticulous design process, getting through planning was straightforward. "We were expecting problems", Paul explained, "as this is a very rural area, and the old and new properties were chalk and cheese. But thanks to Fleming Homes' input, it went straight through in eight weeks."

#### Demolition, groundworks, timber frame kit erection

With bat compliance sorted, demolition got underway. The site was large and heavily sloping, with surface rock and thick Welsh clay. After some minor issues with groundworks and excavation, getting the house up was relatively quick - the timber frame kit went up in only two weeks.

"Getting the kit up was the best bit! Once we got the floors down, we were really up against it in time", says Paul "If it starts raining, it turns the place to mud, and you can't build. And it rains a lot in Wales! You can lose weeks at a time. We managed it with hours to spare."

#### **Timber frame teamwork**

The 2-in-1 house design called for close teamwork between Fleming Homes and the Bateses' builder. "The junctions where the building fits together were tricky because of the mix of materials – Welsh slate, timber frame, weather board, render, insulation," explains Paul. "My builder, Dylan, had no experience of this, but Richard Simmonds, Fleming Homes' Technical Director, was very helpful. On quite a few occasions, Richard sent through extra construction drawings, and talked me and Dylan through them on the phone. Fleming Homes don't just make timber frames, put it down and 'ta ta'. They're not that kind of company."

### Summing up - "as near perfect as we imagined"

The verdict on the Bateses' new home? "It's fabulous!" says Paul. "Really special, with a tremendous feeling of space."

#### **Award winners!**

Paul and Rhian's self-build success has also been recognised by industry professionals with their new home winning the Build It Awards 2017 prestigious accolade, Best Timber Frame Home.





infinitely timeless, combining grand exteriors with highly liveable floor plans.

# ENGLISH TRADITIONAL



3 BEDROOM

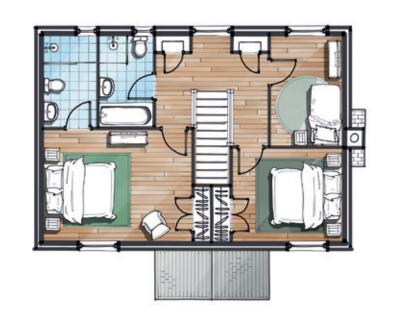
Total Floor Area:
130m<sup>2</sup>

Footprint:

simple shapes and big continuous wall areas make for the most economical designs, both in build costs and thermal efficiencies



a classic layout for functional family living think fun times prepping dinner together in the kitchen, then nestling in front of the warm fire late in the evening in the lounge





a feature entrance gable can give additional character

a utility room off a kitchen is practical, but some may prefer this layout with open plan kitchen/dining room



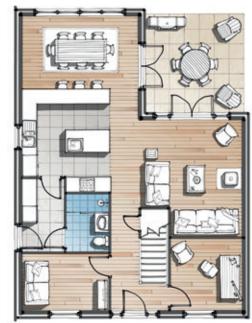
3 BEDROOM
Total Floor Area:

Footprint: 90m<sup>2</sup>



traditional on the outside with open modern spaces inside, offers the potential to surprise first time visitors







with traditional Queen-Anne style features, this design is like an understated mansion - regal almost!



oletach the garage to retain the symmetry of the design



4 BEDROOM
Total Floor Area:
250m<sup>2</sup>
Footprint:

the rear elevation of this design must face south!



add a big back yard or some stunning views and this layout is complete!

the stair in this layout is the focal point of the entire house - a grand statement stair here is essential!









# THE GROWING HOUSE

There is a likelihood that the design of your self-build home will involve some compromise. This could be from constraints associated with planning, limitations imposed by your site, a difference in opinion with your significant other, or simply down to what you can afford.

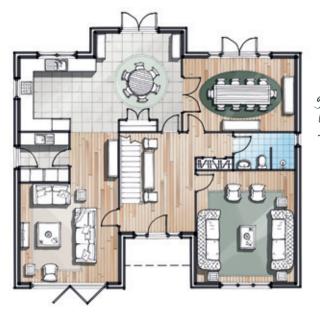
Our growing house evolved from the idea that achieving the perfect design is often realised through a process of modification. Designs can be extended or shrunk to meet your budget.

This design can grow to suit your requirements for living today or your aspirations for tomorrow, whether that's growing your family, watching them fly the nest, or even expanding to accommodate your in-laws.

While we don't offer standard designs, if you have been inspired by any of the plans or elevations in this brochure they can be developed and tailored to suit you, whether that's to create more space or less!



4 BEDROOM
Total Floor Area:
268m²
Footprint:



great family layout, lots of spaces to be together, yet plenty more to be apart!



this en-suite could very easily be designed as a 'Tack + Till'





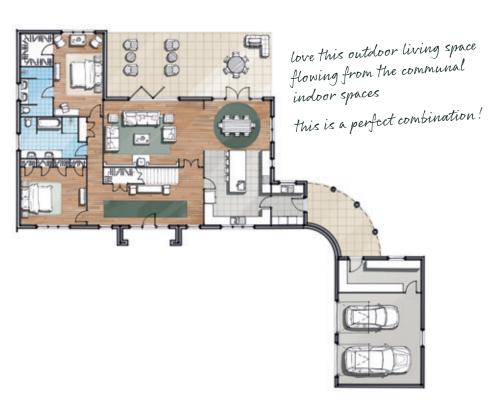


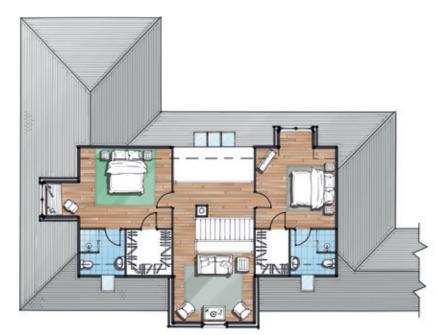
















# SCOTTISH TRADITIONAL



**3 BEDROOM Total Floor Area:**143m<sup>2</sup>

Footprint: 93m<sup>2</sup>

the different shapes in this elevation give it a unique look, enhanced by the striking gable







the attic truss in this design forms the roof and first floor with one structural member, this offers '2 for 7' cost efficiencies



a gable can add a striking feature to a very simple design





this cost efficient hipped roof could be replaced with a glazed gable giving additional space, light and wow factor

the best single storey layouts always flow with awesome outdoor living spaces



Total Floor Area: 243m²

Footprint: 140m<sup>2</sup>



a more traditional 'compartment' style layout which remains very popular provides lots of benefits



in terms of build costs and costs per m², there isn't a more efficient way to build than utilising an 'attic truss' room in the roof structure





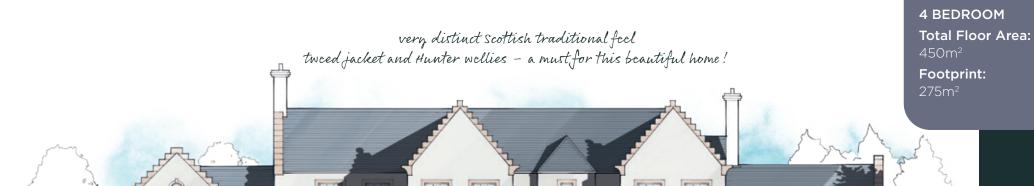
4 BEDROOM
Total Floor Area:
265m²
Footprint:











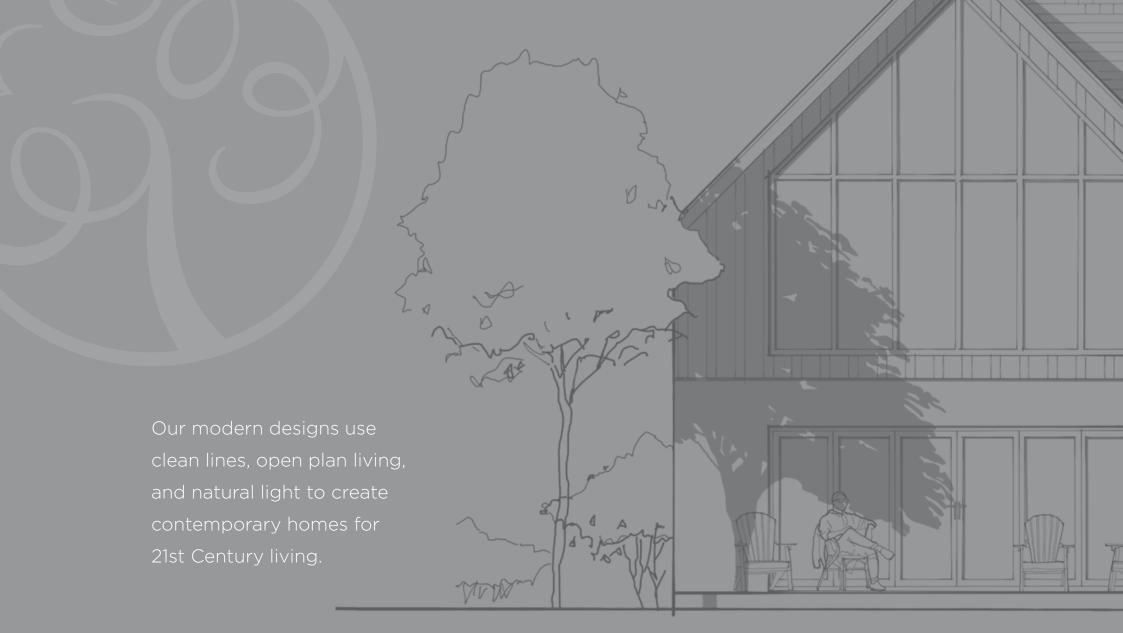


### ###

the modern, meeting

perfectly at the grand entrance hall

minimise the mess (and arguments) with dual wardrobes



# MODERN



this living room is dramatically enhanced by the full storey ceiling height

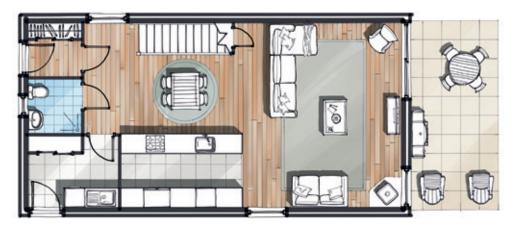
2 BEDROOM

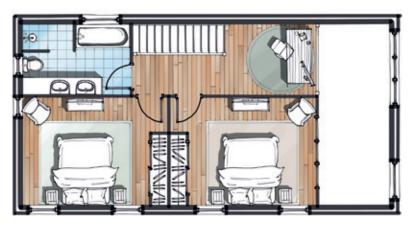
Total Floor Area:
130m<sup>2</sup>

Footprint:

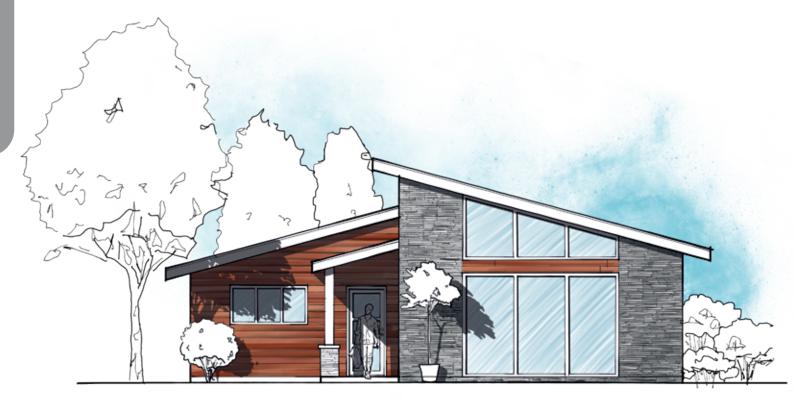


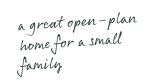
if you're lucky enough to have a plot with exceptional views, this workspace over the glazed gables provides the ultimate place for inspiration





3 BEDROOM Total Floor Area: 145m<sup>2</sup> Footprint:







a simple build, extremely functional and an awesome 'together time' home!







mixed cladding, hard lines and flat roofs popularise contemporary designs and make a real statement about the homeowner!





shade or sunlight? you choose with covered/open outdoor areas



restricting direct sunlight is often overlooked in modern designs

3 BEDROOM

Total Floor Area:

outdoor living space on upper levels is great for additional privacy in built up areas

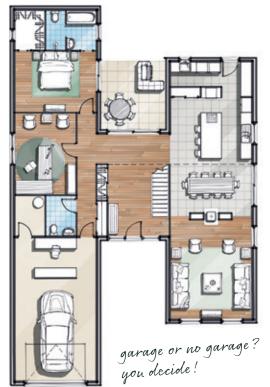




perfect town house layout for narrow urban plots

5 BEDROOM Total Floor Area: Footprint:





this double-sided fireplace with 3/4 breast is great for dividing the room without shutting it off completely



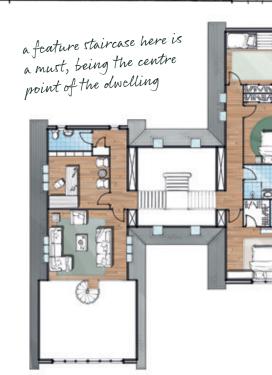
this full storen height ceiling enhances the feeling of space to the ground floor living area, but it could be easily developed if more accommodation is needed

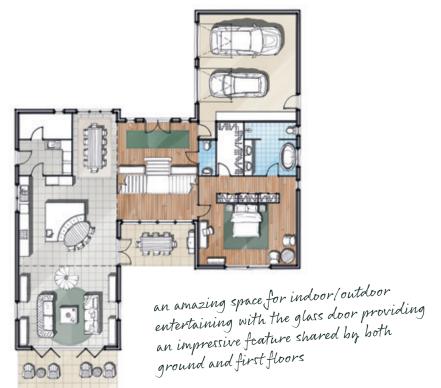


4 BEDROOM

Total Floor Area:
395m<sup>2</sup>

Footprint:





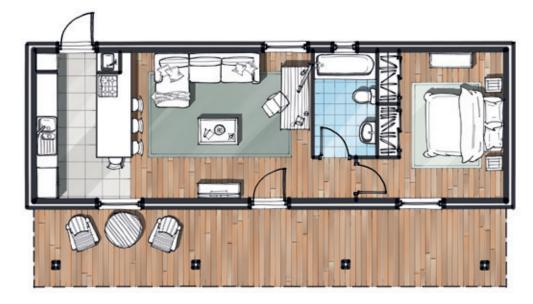


# AFFORDABLE





clerestory windows
with the ranch-type
porch overhang create a
quirky touch to a simple
single bed layout



2 BEDROOM

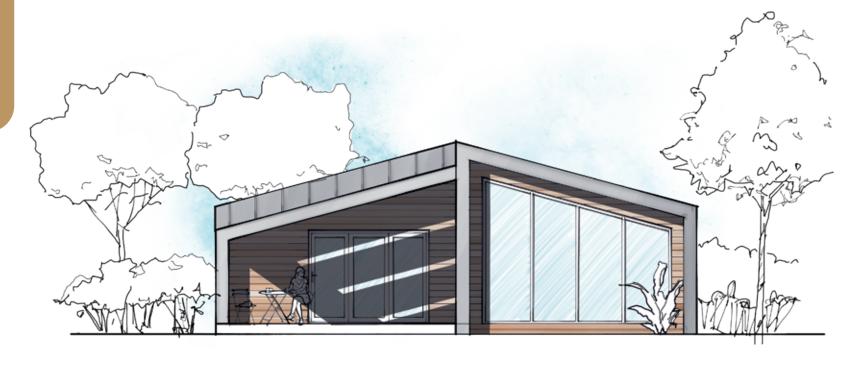
Total Floor Area:
72m²

Footprint:





this home could be completed for under £80k investment rental potential? worker's cottage? holiday rental?



great one bedroom, holidan chalet-style layout



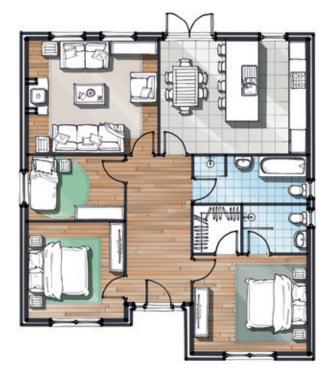
hottub yes please!

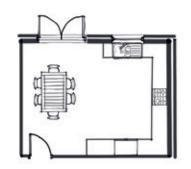


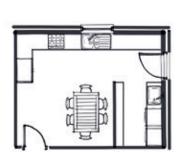
limited junctions
and large wall spans
have a positive
impact on thermal
efficiency

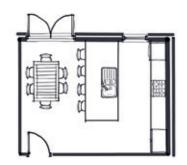












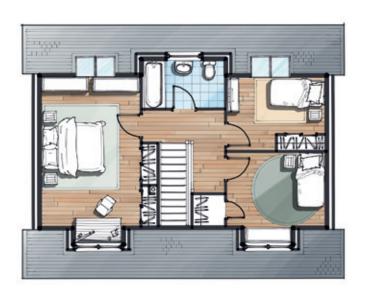


a kitchen space means different things to different people, what suits you best?



4 BEDROOM
Total Floor Area:
139m²
Footprint:





olevelopment of the 'room in the roof' can take place after the initial build

grow the house as the family (and budget) grows!



# COTTAGE



3 BEDROOM
Total Floor Area:
100m<sup>2</sup>
Footprint:

this is a modern take on a classic scottish croft design, beautifully adapted for modern living



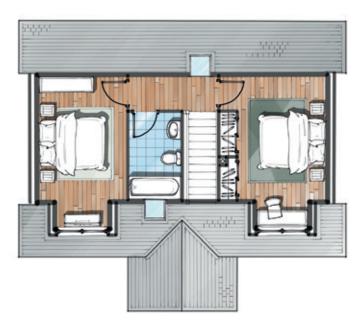
different cladding materials will give a completely different feel to this home

consider random stonework as an alternative to this modern timber cladding finish



charming elevation and practical family home with 'room in the roof' bedrooms









open kitchen/lounge, but not too open, love how both spaces open onto the outdoor eating area!





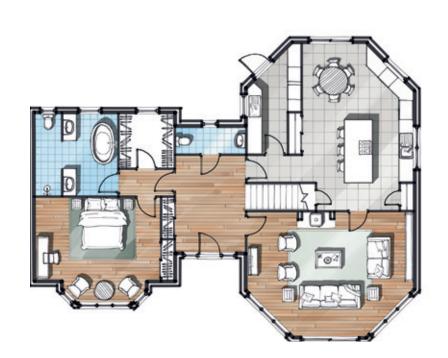


3 BEDROOM

Total Floor Area:
189m²

Footprint:

curb appeal! the shapes in this olesign make it one of the most talked about in our portfolio





# NEW ENGLAND



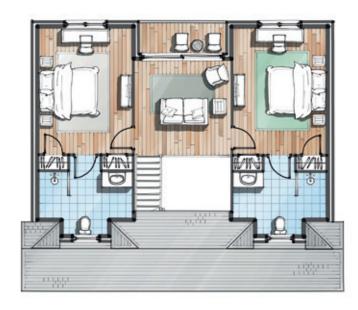
**3 BEDROOM Total Floor Area:**157m<sup>2</sup>

Footprint: 90m<sup>2</sup>

a olwelling with a
distinct beachside feel
picture the external
cladding stained duck
egg blue with striking
white external joinery



perfect open plan living space for family gatherings







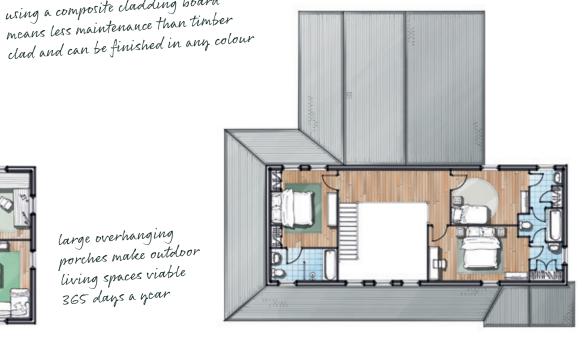


this home looks like it's straight out of an American movie set





large overhanging porches make outdoor living spaces viable 365 days a year















## HOW TO COMPLETE

## THE DESIGN BRIEF QUESTIONNAIRE

Our Design Brief Questionnaire opposite, will help you collate all the information we need to develop a timber frame design to suit you. The more information you can provide, the greater the chance our design team will be able to envisage what you have in mind.

**Personal details** - please provide us with all your contact details. We'll telephone you on receipt of your questionnaire to clarify any queries and we'll send your designs both by email and post. Without this information, we'll not be able to respond as quickly as we might otherwise.

**Site details** - information about your site is critical to informing the design of your project; don't forget to attach your site plan.

**Design preferences** – be sure to give us an indication of your ideal total floor area (add all storeys together) and your budget. If you're not sure what size of dwelling you can afford to build, our online cost calculator will help with a ballpark figure.

www.fleminghomes.co.uk/self-build-resources/cost-calculator/

You can also use this section to help us understand what you like. If you don't have any fixed preferences, then it's fine to note this on the form. Or if you're torn between more than one style or finish – simply let us know.

**Comments (External and Internal)** – please provide us with as much information as possible. If you've been collecting or pinning images, please share these to help us understand the sort of design aesthetic that really appeals to you.

**Living space, utilities, design features, accommodation, energy** – these choices will influence the floor plans and elevations we produce for you – take time to detail a realistic wish list that's in line with your budget.

They say that a picture is worth a thousand words; images can help convey what you're looking to achieve, so feel free to send anything that will help us to better understand your vision for your self-build home.

And that's it. When you're done, simply send your completed form to us via enquiries@fleminghomes.co.uk or by post to Fleming Homes, Station Road, Duns TD11 3HS and one of the team will be in touch.

Alternatively, visit our website where you will find a downloadable interactive pdf version of this questionnaire which can be completed and emailed directly to us.

www.fleminghomes.co.uk/services-products/design-planning/





# DESIGN BRIEF QUESTIONNAIRE

Every design project we manage is created from a blank sheet of paper and developed specifically around the needs of the individual self-builder. We don't believe in 'standard designs'; it's your ideas that will form the design of your new home.

relative to your specific requirements. Please answer as many of the questions as you can. The more information we have, the better we can realise your vision for your self-build home. This questionnaire is intended to help you define your design brief. It asks the key questions we require to develop a design that is

Please complete and return this to enquiries@fleminghomes.co.uk or by post to Fleming Homes, Station Rd, Duns TD11 3HS and we'll make a start on turning your dreams into reality right away.

					The site plan is a very important part of the design process. It indicates the orientation of the plot, site access, boundaries, and neighbouring structures. Understanding the site allows the designer to consider solar gain around the house as well as capturing important views. It also allows consideration of unwanted views and prevailing winds. Furthermore, it may determine the shape and size of the design based on the boundaries. Please attach a copy of the site plan and refer to the checklist below.	as/sewer/telephone)	Sign Preferences  Included)	Two storey	or describe here
:: 8 1	Email 			the conditions	plot, site access, be as well as captur the shape and size	d (electric/water/g ss to the site	Total budget (excluding land) sources/cost-calculator/ to est ered in square meterage is for	Ö	O 'U' shaped
,	Mobile		ed a plot	- if Yes, please attach a copy of the conditions	he orientation of the gain around the hous re, it may determine st below.	My proposed plot is serviced (electric/water/gas/sewer/telephone)   The site plan indicates access to the site	Total bud elf-build-resources/c s figure entered in sq	73	O'H' shaped
9	Telephone		Oldentified a plot	- if Yes, ple	ocess. It indicates to consider solar grands. Furthermo efer to the checkli	My proi	ninghomes.co.uk/s	One and a half storey	O 'L' shaped
F F	1ele		In the process of purchasing		art of the design proallows the designer views and prevailing of the site plan and r	lan the site plan oned	floor and first floor included) quare metre calculator at www.fler ed on your space requirements. Ke and first floor.	One an	O'T' shaped
tails	Last Name	code		2	The site plan is a very important part of the design process. It indicates the orient structures. Understanding the site allows the designer to consider solar gain arou allows consideration of unwanted views and prevailing winds. Furthermore, it may boundaries. Please attach a copy of the site plan and refer to the checklist below.	I have included a copy of my site plan I have indicated direction North on the site plan The site plan is to scale or dimensioned	round floor and first per square metre can based on your spa		infiguration  Rectangle
Personal Details	First Name La	Site Details Address and Postcode	Do you own the site?  Yes Planning status of site?	) Pu O	The site plan is structures. Unallows conside boundaries. Pl	I have includec   I have indicate:   The site plan is	Design Preferences  Total floor area (ground fle  - Use our cost per squ  your new home based house, ground floor an	Type of Dwelling  One storey	Floor Plan Configuration  Square  Rectangl

Jillities  Open kitchen/dining - separate living room Open kitchen/dining - separate living room Separate kitchen/dining/living  I car garage	Osaltbox Omono-pitch  Skillion & lean-to Open gable  Soof Finish Slate Tile Metal Thatched Flat membrane Other  Comments for External Design
Snug Playroom Study  3 car garage  Vaulted ceiling rcase Porch	O Dormer O Split gable Windows O UPVC O Timber
Accommodation  2 Bedroom 3 Bedroom Ground floor bedroom & en-suite Main bathroom Shower Bath S Master bedroom En-suite Dressing roor No. of bedrooms with en-suites Energy Solar PV panels Heat recovery system Underfloor heating	O Dutch gable O Hip  Ex
Sedroom  A & en-suite  ath Sing room  th en-suites	Mansard  Gullwing  External Cladding  Render on block work  Timber clad
) 4 Bedroom	O Dutch hip  O Dutch hip  ork Stone Brick Render board Other

Style of Roof

Additional information

Please share any images that help illustrate your aspirations for the design of your home (both internally and externally). Clippings from magazines, Google images, or even Pinterest are all helpful. The designer might not anticipate that the living area you desire has a vaulted ceiling with exposed beams and full height angled windows, but a picture can quickly convey your design preferences.





































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