

CUSTOM HOME DESIGN QUESTIONNAIRE

We have put together a list of questions to help you articulate your vision for your new home. You can print these questions out and answer them as a starting point to the planning process, or just use the list to help clarify your needs and goals are. Think of this form as an “icebreaker”. We crafted it to help you navigate initial conversations with your Home Designer and Builder.

As you go through the questions, keep a few things in mind:

Dream **big**, then scale **back**.

Don't be afraid to think about and describe what your “perfect world” would be like. As things move forward you can adjust these ideas to the budget, zoning, timeframe, land, and other realities.

Separate the “**needs**”, “**wants**”, “**dreams**”, and “**don't wants**”.

The needs in your home you cannot live without. The wants in your home are realistic and easily obtainable. The dreams for your home are more difficult to achieve and require immense resources. The things you don't want in your home are equally important to imagining your home's image.

Rank your desired features in **order of importance**.

This may help you make difficult concessions later.

Don't try to solve the problem, just **express your desires**.

Even if your problems and desires seem at odds with each other or impossible to obtain, keep moving with your design and focus on what you want. If there are differing opinions between you and your partner, **include all of the opinions**. It's important to address everyone's concerns in order to create something that works for everyone.

Describe what and why you **like** or **don't like**.

Think about things you're opinionated on in your own home or other homes. Give examples and use as many descriptive words as you can.

Collect some **images of features or things** that you're drawn to.

Houzz and Pinterest are great places to find inspiration. Magazine clippings work great too. Consider floor plans, architectural features, and building materials that you like, or ones that create a certain mood or feeling.

If a question is not relevant to your situation, **just skip it**.

STEVE BENNETT BUILDERS

o. 541.383.5833
c. 541.948.0828
e. steve@stevebennettbuilders.com
www.SteveBennettBuilders.com

PERSONAL INFORMATION

Contact Information

Name:
Home Address:
Phone Number:
E-Mail Address:

What is your preferred method of contact? Call E-mail Either

Family Members: Adults Children Teenagers Grandchildren

GENERAL INFORMATION

Have you worked with an architect or designer previously? If so, what did you like and/or dislike about the experience? What qualities are you seeking in a home designer?

Have you ever built a custom home before? Was it a positive experience?

What are your biggest concerns or worries in undertaking this project?

What are your primary reasons for building a new home?

Downsizing	Dream Home	Need More Space
Relocation	Vacation Home	Other

LOGISTICS

What is your desired timeline for project completion? Do you have a specific holiday, life event or schedule restraint you are using as a target "move-in" date?

Do you own a lot? If so, where? Is it a part of a specific development?

What size is the lot? Approximately how many acres?

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FINANCING INFORMATION

| What is your approximate budget range for your new home?

| Will you be using financing for this project?

FLOORPLAN / LAYOUT

| What approximate square footage do you have in mind for your new home?

| How many bedrooms and bathrooms would be ideal? Bedrooms Bathrooms

| How many floors would you prefer? One-Story Two-Story

| What is unique or special about your lot? How will you use the land around the new home? What kind of connection do you want to establish to the outdoors?

| Does your lot offer the potential for views? From what spaces are those views critical?

| Garage size and layout: Cars Attached Detached

| Do you envision any accessory structures or outbuildings?

Guesthouse / Mother-In-Law Unit Detached

Office

Workshop

Sport Court (Tennis, Basketball, Pickleball)

Home Gym

Other

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STYLE / DESIGN

Do you have strong feelings about the “style” you want? (Check all that apply and/or describe)

Modern

Industrial

Traditional

Mediterranean

Northwest/Craftsman

Lodge

Ranch/Farmhouse

Cottage/Bungalow

Are your sensibilities formal, modern, casual, chic, country, minimalist, or a combination of styles?

What type of front entrance features do you prefer?

Grand and Dramatic

Simple and Welcoming

Large Patio

Country style porch

What kind of aesthetic are you looking to achieve in the building? Is there a message or feeling you want the house to convey? (For example, do you want to convey a sense of calm? Do you want an atmosphere of clean efficiency?)

Are there any particular architectural features you hope to incorporate?
(For example, fireplaces, cathedral ceilings, wine cellar, courtyard, etc.)

Do you have any specific types of building materials in mind for your home?
(For example, copper roof, stucco siding, natural stone, stamped concrete floors, barnwood accents, etc.)

ENTERTAINING

How will you or your family members be using the home, and how frequently? (For example, do you plan to work from home? Do you plan to entertain? Are you an aspiring chef? Do you intend to host a lot of family?)

What is your entertaining lifestyle?

We entertain at least a few times per month, sometimes as large gatherings. It's important that our home flows well with a large number of people.

We entertain smaller groups during the summer months and holidays.

We entertain occasionally, but do not need to design our home around our infrequent gatherings.

We rarely entertain. We would rather go out to meet friends/family.

What rooms or areas of the home do you prefer to entertain in?

Kitchen

Dining Room

Living Room

Family Room

Garage

Theater/Media Room

Outdoor Patio

Lawn Area

Other

Do you plan to entertain outdoors? Is a back patio, BBQ and/or firepit area a primary focus for your home?
Is a large backyard important to you?

LIFESTYLE

| Do you have a special interest or hobby that requires a particular space in your home?

| Are there any collections or displays you would like to feature in any part of your home?

| What room(s) do you spend most of your time in? (Check all that apply)

Great Room/Living Room/Family Room
Shop/Garage
Kitchen

Hobby/Media/Recreation Room
Study/Library/Office
Other

| Do any family members or frequent visitors have special needs or requirements? (Geriatric, Handicap, Mobility)

| Would you like to plan for any in the future?

| Do you have any pets that are a part of your home life?

| If so, do they need any special space?