

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



FrameUpNow is not simply advocating steel over wood. We design residential steel frames using International Building Code (IBC) engineering to assure a precision and erectable skeleton and we deploy Building Information Modeling (BIM) to generate a precise Materials Shopping List from the engineered structure itself. Requirements and real material quantities are understood before construction begins. The benefits below describe why steel is a superior framing material. FrameUpNow's durable distinction is that these benefits are delivered through a deterministic IBC-engineered system with BIM-derived material quantities, not through prescriptive plans or estimated takeoffs

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

Universal Requirements - some or all may be required

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