

Why Houses Look Different Around the World

Article: Why Houses Look Different Around the World

Houses around the world do not all look the same. In some places, houses are made of wood. In other places, they are made of stone, mud, or even ice. Why are houses so different?

One reason is weather. In cold places like Canada and The United Kingdom, houses need strong roofs and heaters. In hot countries like Thailand, houses often have windows that stay open and roofs that give shade.

Another reason is culture. In Morocco, many homes have small windows and colourful tiles. In Japan, houses are simple and use sliding doors. People often sit on the floor.

Money also changes the way homes look. Big houses with many rooms cost more. Some people live in small flats, while others live in houses with gardens.

Each house tells a story. It shows the way people live, what they need, and what they love.





Vocabulary Practice

Word / Phrase	Definition
House	A building where people live
Roof	The top part of a building that covers it
Heater	A machine that makes a room warm
Shade	A cool, dark area that blocks sunlight
Culture	The way people live, dress, eat, and build in a place
Tiles	Small flat pieces, often made of stone or ceramic, used on floors/walls
Sliding door	A door that moves from side to side
Flat	A home inside a larger building; also called an apartment
Mud	Wet earth, often used to build homes in hot or dry places
Story	Information about life or history

Comprehension Questions

1. Why do houses in Canada need strong roofs and heaters?
2. What kind of doors do many Japanese houses use?
3. How does weather change the way houses are built?
4. Why do some people live in small flats?
5. What does a house show about the people who live in it?



Discussion Questions

1. What are houses like in your country?
2. Do you live in a house, flat, or something else?
3. What materials are common in homes near you?
4. Do you like homes with big windows or small ones? Why?
5. What kind of home would you like to live in someday?
6. Have you seen a house that looks very different? Where?
7. Is it better to live in a small home or a big one?
8. How does your home keep you warm or cool?
9. What part of your home do you like the most?
10. If you could design a house, what would it look like?