

Why Build With Insulated Concrete Forms?

Insulated Concrete Forms (or ICFs) are forms or molds that have built-in insulation for accepting reinforced concrete. The first patent application for an ICF was registered in the late 1960's. Since then, and particularly in the last 4 years, ICFs have been fast-becoming the mainstream preferred building product worldwide for all of the right reasons. These large, hollow blocks are stacked right off of the truck and filled with reinforcing bar and concrete. The end result leaves you with a high-performing wall that is structurally sound, insulated, strapped, has a vapor barrier and is ready to accept final exterior and interior finishes.

Comfortable Environment

ICF buildings are very quiet. Insulated concrete form buildings are comfortable whether it is hot or cold outside because temperature is evenly distributed. ICF is healthier because concrete is non-toxic and does not let off ozone depleting substances and there is no nutrient source existing in the structure for mold growth.

Safe & Secure Structures

ICF buildings are super strong. There is a documented case of an ICF home being hit by a car going 90 mph. Shortly thereafter the same house was assaulted by 165 mph hurricane gusts. The home only sustained cosmetic damage that was easily fixed.

The ICF construction method produces longer lasting structures. ICF buildings are not vulnerable to termite or rotting like wood structures. They require less maintenance than wood structures. They are also not susceptible to rusting like steel stud construction.

Homes built with ICF are much better at surviving fires, floods, high winds or other types of severe weather conditions. Because of their excellent track record, most insurance companies will offer discounts from 10% - 30% for buildings built with the ICF construction.

Cost Effective-Energy Efficient Home

ICF house requires about half the air conditioning and heating requirements of a regular home. So you save big on installation as well as operational costs. Thus ICF construction produces environmentally friendly buildings.

A concrete home can be up to twice as energy efficient as traditional homes. Wood framed wall systems can have thermal bridging, gaps in insulation and erosion of R-values. ICF construction has no thermal bridging, continuous insulation and constant R-value.

ICF homes are 8 to ten times stronger than traditional construction structures, four times more fire resistant and two times more energy efficient.