

<b>Term</b>	<b>Definition</b>
<b><i>A/C</i></b>	Air Conditioning
<b><i>A/C Coil</i></b>	Apparatus through which freon flows; fan blows air over it producing cool air (located in the furnace air chamber).
<b><i>A/C Compressor</i></b>	Located on the outside of the home; removes heat from the freon that comes from the A/C coil, then returns the cooled freon to the coil.
<b><i>A/C Disconnect</i></b>	Electrical panel box for outside compressor; used to remove electrical power from the compressor.
<b><i>Aerator</i></b>	Device on water faucets designed to screen foreign matter out of the water and prevent splashing; also mixes air into the water.
<b><i>Aggregate</i></b>	Any of several hard inert materials ranging from sand to rocks; used for mixing with cement material to form concrete or mortar.
<b><i>Air-Drying</i></b>	Method of removing excess moisture from lumber by natural circulation of air. (See kiln-drying).
<b><i>Amp-Ampere</i></b>	Amount of electricity that flows through a conductor or circuit; Watts divided by Volts equals Amps.
<b><i>Anchor Dead-End</i></b>	Device at the dead end of a post tension cable, installed at factory; used to secure cable to the inside of the form.
<b><i>Anchor Live-End</i></b>	Device put on the live end of a post tension cable; installed in the field, prior to installing the pocket former; used to secure live end to inside of forms.

<b>Term</b>	<b>Definition</b>
<b><i>Backfill</i></b>	Earth, once dug out, that has been replaced and tamped down around the foundation.
<b><i>Backsplash</i></b>	Short extension of a countertop up a wall; also called a splashboard.
<b><i>Baluster</i></b>	Vertical support for a handrail in a stairway; also called a banister.
<b><i>Barge Board</i></b>	The board at the gable just under the edge of the roof behind the fascia; supports the overhang.
<b><i>Base Shoe</i></b>	Molding added at the bottom of a baseboard to cover the edge of finish flooring or carpeting.
<b><i>Base, Baseboard</i></b>	Molding covering the joint between a finished wall and a floor.
<b><i>Batter Board</i></b>	One of several simple structures used to temporarily mark the corners of a building and the height of foundation walls early in construction.
<b><i>Batts</i></b>	Insulation usually used in walls and attic.
<b><i>Bay Window</i></b>	Structure that projects from an exterior wall containing at least one window, and usually several windows at an angle to each other.
<b><i>Beam</i></b>	2 or more 2 x's nailed together to form structural horizontal support over an opening; used to support other structural members.
<b><i>Beams – Foundation</i></b>	Trenches dug prior to pouring slab to provide additional strength around the perimeter and at engineered locations within the slab.
<b><i>Bearing Partition</i></b>	Any interior divider that supports the weight of the structure above it.
<b><i>Beveled Siding</i></b>	Siding with a thick butt and a thin upper edge lapped to shed water; sometimes called clapboard.
<b><i>Bifold Door</i></b>	Interior door hinged in the middle, which folds against the jamb; usually installed in pairs.
<b><i>Birdsmouth</i></b>	Cut in the rafter where it bears on the top plate of a bearing wall.
<b><i>Board Foot</i></b>	Unit of lumber measure equal to 144 cubic inches. The basic unit is 1" in normal thickness by 12" square.
<b><i>Bottom Plate, Sole Plate</i></b>	Lowest horizontal member of a partition or wall – it rests on the floor.
<b><i>Bow</i></b>	Warp upward along the length of a piece of lumber laid flat.
<b><i>Bracing</i></b>	Many and various types, both permanent and temporary, to provide support to structural members.
<b><i>Breaker Box</i></b>	Metal box containing all electrical circuit breakers.

<b>Term</b>	<b>Definition</b>
<b><i>Brick Frieze</i></b>	Finish of cornice to trim out brick where it meets soffit of home.
<b><i>Brick Ledge</i></b>	Lowered portion of slab where exterior brick is placed.
<b><i>Brick Tie</i></b>	Metal strip used to attach or secure a brick veneer wall to a frame building; set at a 24" grid.
<b><i>Bridging</i></b>	Cross bridging or solid members to brace one joist to the next; used to prevent twisting.
<b><i>Broom Finish</i></b>	Broom swept concrete finish; produces rough finish.
<b><i>BTU</i></b>	Abbreviation for British Thermal Unit; also written Btu; a measure of heat and heat loss.
<b><i>Buck</i></b>	Frame assembly that forms the rough opening for a door or window.
<b><i>Building Codes</i></b>	Collection of national, regional and local requirements or rules that must be followed during any construction activity, commercial or residential. Major areas of concern are structural, electrical, plumbing, heating, A/C, and fire codes.
<b><i>Building Paper</i></b>	Paper placed outside the sheathing to help protect against air penetration into the home.
<b><i>Built-Up Roof</i></b>	Surface for a flat or nearly flat roof that consists of several layers of roofing felt, each hotmopped with asphalt and a topping of gravel or crushed stone; also called a tar and gravel roof.
<b><i>Bull Float</i></b>	Large tool used for rough finish of concrete to level and make surface even prior to concrete hardening.
<b><i>Butt</i></b>	Type of joint in which materials meet edge to edge; the action of forming such a joint.

<b>Term</b>	<b>Definition</b>
<b><i>C-Tile</i></b>	Ceramic Tile.
<b><i>Cantilever</i></b>	Any part of a structure that projects beyond its main support and is balanced on it; the act of projecting and balancing the structure.
<b><i>Casing</i></b>	Piece of wood or metal trim that completes the frame of a door or window.
<b><i>Cathead</i></b>	Clamping device applied outside the form on the cable's live-end, to maintain tension on the cable until the concrete work is finished.
<b><i>Cathedral Ceiling</i></b>	High pitched ceiling peaking in the middle of the room.
<b><i>Cement</i></b>	Basic ingredient in concrete; also known as Portland cement.
<b><i>Chairs, Concrete</i></b>	Used to keep post tension cables and re-bar suspended in concrete slab during pouring.
<b><i>Check</i></b>	Lengthwise crack across the grain in a piece of lumber.
<b><i>Chimney Cap</i></b>	Protects brick or siding from the weather and keeps water from entering that area; generally metal.
<b><i>Chord</i></b>	Any principal member of a truss.
<b><i>Clear Final</i></b>	Final inspection that has been passed.
<b><i>Codes</i></b>	Collection of national, regional and local requirements or rules that must be followed during any construction activity, commercial or residential. Major areas of concern are structural, electrical, plumbing, heating, A/C, and fire codes.
<b><i>Collar Beam</i></b>	Tie that keeps the roof from spreading; connects similar rafters on opposite sides of roof; not actually a beam.
<b><i>Collar Tie</i></b>	Framing brace used to tie together opposing rafters at the ridge line.
<b><i>Column</i></b>	Vertical structural member of steel or wood; provides intermediate support for framing above.
<b><i>Corbel</i></b>	Design in which a course of brick projects beyond the course below.
<b><i>Coring/Filler</i></b>	Blocking between headers.
<b><i>Corner Bead</i></b>	Metal accessory used to finish and strengthen exposed corners of walls finished with wallboard or plaster.
<b><i>Corner Bracing</i></b>	Diagonal strips used to keep the frame square and plumb; plywood sheeting can also be used.

<b>Term</b>	<b>Definition</b>
<b><i>Corner Post</i></b>	Vertical member at the corner of the frame; receives inner and outer covering materials.
<b><i>Cornice</i></b>	Exterior finish on a building: trim, siding, windows, and doors.
<b><i>Countersink</i></b>	To bore a recess in wood for the head of a nail or screw; to drive the fastener into the recess below the wood's surface.
<b><i>Cricket</i></b>	Small structure built on a roof to divert water, usually away from a chimney; also called a saddle.
<b><i>Cripple</i></b>	Vertical structure members above a header.
<b><i>Crown</i></b>	High point of a piece of lumber with a crook in it.

<b>Term</b>	<b>Definition</b>
<b><i>Damper</i></b>	Device used to block airflow; used in A/C systems, ducts, fireplaces, etc.).
<b><i>Dead End</i></b>	End of a post tension cable to which a permanent casting is attached and nailed to inside of form.
<b><i>Dead Load</i></b>	Weight of all structures in place. (See live load).
<b><i>Deadwood</i></b>	Blocks nailed to the frame, providing a base to nail sheetrock to.
<b><i>Deck</i></b>	Strip or solid used to provide support for roof shingles; also used for plywood surface of floor.
<b><i>Diverters</i></b>	Sheetmetal used to divert water on roofs.
<b><i>Dormer</i></b>	Minor structure projecting from a sloping roof; usually containing a window or ventilating louver.
<b><i>Dormer/Dog House</i></b>	Vertical framing which projects from a sloping roof.
<b><i>Double Hung Window</i></b>	Type of window with two sashes that slide vertically past each other.
<b><i>Downspouts</i></b>	Pipe that leads the water down from the gutter.
<b><i>Drip Cap</i></b>	Metal molding above the frame of a window or exterior door that directs water beyond the surface of the window frame.
<b><i>Drip Edge</i></b>	Strip of material used to protect the edges of roof structure from water damage.

<b>Term</b>	<b>Definition</b>
<b><i>Easement</i></b>	Right or privilege to use land, other than as a tenant, for a specific purpose (i.e., utility or telephone lines running across property).
<b><i>Eaves</i></b>	Lower edge of sloping roof; the part of the roof projecting beyond the outside wall of the home.
<b><i>Enamel</i></b>	Type of paint typically used on interior wood and some bathrooms and kitchens; usually a high gloss finish.
<b><i>Escutcheon</i></b>	Shield used around pipes to cover hole over-cut in wall.
<b><i>Expansion Joint</i></b>	1) Strip of flexible material, usually asphalt or treated lumber, inserted between sections of a large concrete slab to permit expansion and prevent cracking. 2) Vertical seam in a brick wall, unmortared, allowing expansion and contraction of the brick wall; usually filled with caulk.
<b><i>Eyebrow</i></b>	Small roof projecting from the outside wall over a window.

<b>Term</b>	<b>Definition</b>
<b><i>Fascia</i></b>	Face board run around home to cover rafter tails.
<b><i>Felt</i></b>	Shingle underlayment.
<b><i>Finger Jointing</i></b>	Factory method of cutting, fitting, and gluing short lengths of lumber together to form longer lengths.
<b><i>Firebox</i></b>	Portion of the fireplace that contains the fire.
<b><i>Firestop</i></b>	Material installed to stop fire from spreading to other areas.
<b><i>Flashing</i></b>	Non-corrosive sheet metal used for watertight seals around windows, doors, and protrusions through the roof, such as chimneys, exhaust vents or step gables.
<b><i>Flashing - Chimney</i></b>	Sheet metal flashing providing a tight joint between chimney and roof.
<b><i>Flashing "Counter"</i></b>	Sheet metal incorporated in the masonry or siding of a chimney where it passes through the roof for the purpose of protecting the exposed ends of the roof flashing.
<b><i>Flash "J"</i></b>	Used on the roof to channel water away around the chimney, dormers, gables, etc. (similar to a gutter).
<b><i>Flashing "Z"</i></b>	Used where 4 x 8 siding is attached vertically (i.e., top end batts to lower end).
<b><i>Flashing Brick</i></b>	Cut in the brick to cover "J" flashing; also called "counter" flashing.
<b><i>Flashing Window</i></b>	Metal molding above the frame of a window or exterior door that directs water beyond the surface of the window frame.
<b><i>Flatwork</i></b>	Walks, drives, patios.
<b><i>Float</i></b>	One of the sheetrock finishing stages, which include hang, tape, float, and skim.
<b><i>Float Forms</i></b>	Used to create lower edges and brick ledges on forms before pouring slabs.
<b><i>Flush – Even</i></b>	Continued surface of two contiguous masses in the same plane or same level.
<b><i>Fly Rafter</i></b>	End rafter of a gable roof with a side overhang.
<b><i>Footing</i></b>	Concrete pad that carries the entire weight of the home upon the earth.
<b><i>Form</i></b>	Structure built to hold and shape concrete.
<b><i>Form Bumping</i></b>	Hitting form with sledge to move stones in concrete away from forms.

**Term****Definition*****Foundation***

Part of a building that rests on a footing or is poured monolithically of concrete on properly compacted or virgin soil; supports the entire structure above it.

***Foundation Wall***

Wall of poured concrete or concrete blocks that rests on the footing and supports the remainder of the home.

***Furrdown***

Portion of the ceiling which is lower, allowing for cabinet, recessed lights, etc.

***Furring***

Falsework or framework necessary to bring the surface over masonry to where the finished wall will be constructed.

<b>Term</b>	<b>Definition</b>
<b><i>Gable</i></b>	Triangular end of a building with a sloping roof; triangular end of exterior wall above eaves; end of ridged roof which is not returned on itself but cut off in vertical plane, and is triangular above the eaves due to slope of roof.
<b><i>Galvanic Action</i></b>	Corrosion that results when two dissimilar metals touch each other in the presence of water.
<b><i>Gambrel Ceiling</i></b>	Ceiling design in which the center of the ceiling is raised per plan; sides of the ceiling angle down to meet walls at the normal wall height.
<b><i>Girder</i></b>	Main beam upon which floor joists rest.
<b><i>Glazing Area</i></b>	Window area.
<b><i>Glue-Laminating</i></b>	Factory method of building beams and wide boards by gluing lengths of like-sized lumber together either side to side or edge to edge.
<b><i>Grade</i></b>	Level off to smooth sloping surface for proper drainage.
<b><i>Grade Strings</i></b>	Used to ensure level slab.
<b><i>Grout</i></b>	Concrete patching made of Portland concrete and sand; used in tilework.
<b><i>Gyp</i></b>	Treated fireboard used between brick and frame; provides a moisture barrier and insulation.

<b>Term</b>	<b>Definition</b>
<b><i>Header</i></b>	Structural member carrying load of wall above opening for windows or doors. Material used in the area above a door or window opening to carry the weight perpendicular to studs.
<b><i>Hearth</i></b>	Floor of a fireplace that extends into the room for safety purposes.
<b><i>Hip</i></b>	External angle formed by the junction of two sloping sides of a roof.
<b><i>Holidays</i></b>	Areas on walls or siding that the paint does not completely cover.
<b><i>Home Run</i></b>	Main wire of a circuit running to an area to be provided with electricity.
<b><i>Honeycombs</i></b>	Rough or broken areas of concrete on the side of the slab caused by the stones in the concrete not being moved away from the surface when poured.
<b><i>Hot mop</i></b>	Process of applying hot tar to the roof prior to laying shingles.
<b><i>HVAC</i></b>	Heating, ventilation, and air-conditioning; also known as climate control.

**Term****Definition*****Inspection Plates***

Covers that can be removed to check plumbing.

***Interior Trim***

Interior doorjambs and wood molding.

<b>Term</b>	<b>Definition</b>
<b><i>J-Bolt</i></b>	Bolt which fastens columns, girders or other members to concrete or masonry; resembles the letter "J"; fastens the bottom plate to the foundation.
<b><i>Jack Stud</i></b>	Vertical structure members above a header.
<b><i>Jamb</i></b>	Side of a window or door opening; side member of a door or window frame.
<b><i>Jambs</i></b>	Blocking inside door casing against which the door rests when closed.
<b><i>Joint Compound</i></b>	Chemical mixture in powder or paste form for finishing joints, filling dimples, and covering nicks in gypsum wallboard.
<b><i>Joint Tape</i></b>	Perforated tape that is embedded in joint compound to reduce the chance of cracking at joints in gypsum wallboard.
<b><i>Joist</i></b>	Piece of lumber running across the ceiling of a room from top plate on which the sheetrock is attached. In a two-story structure, the downstairs ceiling joist is also the 2nd story floor joist (the structural members that hold up the floor or ceiling).
<b><i>Joist Hanger</i></b>	Steel or iron stirrups used to support the ends of joists which are to be flush with beams or other joist.

**Term****Definition*****K-Top***

Kitchen counter top that is sometimes made of plastic laminate.

***Keeper/Strike Plate***

Metal plate that engages deadbolt when door is closed; attached to doorjamb.

***Kicker Stakes***

Stakes used to hold forms straight while pouring slab.

***Kiln-Drying***

Method of removing excess moisture from lumber using heat in a special oven. (See air-drying).

***Knee Wall***

Short wall under a slope, usually in attic space.

<b>Term</b>	<b>Definition</b>
<b><i>Lath</i></b>	Mesh made from sheet metal, or gypsum board, onto which plaster is applied.
<b><i>Let-In Brace</i></b>	Board set into notches cut diagonally across studs at the corner of a home built using wood frame construction.
<b><i>Lintel</i></b>	Exterior area above a window in which plywood or other material is used as finish material. When brick is laid above window, door or fireplace, steel beam used to hold it up is called a brick lintel.
<b><i>Live End</i></b>	End of a post tension cable which is run through the form and secured with a cathead. This is the end which is pulled when the cables are stressed.
<b><i>Live Load</i></b>	Total variable weight on a structural member or system; includes weights of people and furnishings. (See dead load).
<b><i>Lookout/Cornice</i></b>	Piece of 2 x 4 nailed to 1 x 4 band around the home to which the soffit and fascia board are secured.
<b><i>Louvers</i></b>	Series of slanted slots arranged to keep out rain, but allow ventilation.

<b>Term</b>	<b>Definition</b>
<b><i>Make-Up</i></b>	Preparation of foundation prior to placing concrete, installation of beams, poly, cables, and re-bar.
<b><i>Manual "J"</i></b>	A/C plan calculation detail.
<b><i>Masonry Veneer</i></b>	Outer surface of wall, brick or stone.
<b><i>Mastic</i></b>	Black tar type cement used as a sealing agent around PVC in the slab.
<b><i>Mesh</i></b>	Wire reinforcement placed in concrete.
<b><i>Mitered Joints</i></b>	Joint made by cutting two pieces at an angle and fitting them together.
<b><i>Moisture Content</i></b>	Amount of water remaining in wood after drying, stated as a percentage of the total amount of water the wood could hold.
<b><i>MPS</i></b>	Minimum Property Standards.

**Term****Definition*****NEC***

National Electric Code.

***Newel Post***

Post that terminates the railing.

**Term****Definition*****Oriented Strand Board***

Panel made of wood strands aligned in three layers. Alternate layers are positioned approximately perpendicular to one another.

***Overhang***

Part of a roof that extends beyond supporting walls.

<b>Term</b>	<b>Definition</b>
<b><i>P-Trap</i></b>	Curve in drainpipes designed to hold water and prevent gas from coming back into the home.
<b><i>Penny</i></b>	A designation, written as "d" for the length of a nail at least 1" long (i.e. 10 penny nail).
<b><i>Piers</i></b>	Concrete footings used in certain conditions.
<b><i>Pitch of Roof</i></b>	Amount of slope to rafters; described in terms of number of inches of fall per horizontal foot of roof.
<b><i>Plat</i></b>	Plan showing homesite dimensions, street locations, easements and other physical descriptions of Communities.
<b><i>Plates</i></b>	2 x 4 material at bottom and top of walls.
<b><i>Platform Framing</i></b>	Type of construction in which floor platforms are framed independently; also, second floors are supported by studs of only one story weight; also called western framing.
<b><i>Plasticity Index</i></b>	Index which describes the soil's tendency to absorb water and hence, expand and contract; very sandy soil is at the low end, as it does not expand or contract when wet; clay is at the high end.
<b><i>Plumb</i></b>	True according to a plumb line; perpendicular; vertical; to true up vertically, as a wall, by use of a plumb line, indirect line with gravity.
<b><i>Plumbing Grounds</i></b>	That part of the plumbing system located within and beneath the concrete in the slab.
<b><i>Plumbing Top-Out</i></b>	Plumbing rough-in is complete and ready for drywall.
<b><i>Plumbing Trim</i></b>	Plumbing fixtures installed in the final stage of plumbing - everything hooked up, tested, adjusted, and operational.
<b><i>Plumbing Vent</i></b>	Vertical pipe through the roof providing an escape for foul gases from sanitary fixture. This flow of air to drainage system equalizes pressures and protects trap seals from siphonage and back pressure.
<b><i>Pop Off Valve</i></b>	Pressure relief valve on water heater to prevent excess pressure.
<b><i>Post Tension Cables</i></b>	Steel cables under tension after the concrete has hardened; used to reinforce concrete slabs.
<b><i>Primary Drain - A/C</i></b>	Main drain for the A/C unit; tied directly into a bath drain.
<b><i>Prime</i></b>	Initial coat of paint.
<b><i>PSI</i></b>	Pounds per square inch.

<b>Term</b>	<b>Definition</b>
<b><i>Punch Out</i></b>	Process of completely checking out a home with an appropriate checklist.
<b><i>Purlin</i></b>	2 x material placed on edge perpendicular to rafters to prevent roof sags.
<b><i>Purlin Bracing</i></b>	Bracing used to support rafters by placing weight of roof on load bearing walls.
<b><i>PVC</i></b>	Poly Vinyl Chloride - vinyl piping used in plumbing systems.

<b>Term</b>	<b>Definition</b>
<b><i>R-Value</i></b>	Resistance to heat flow through a combination of materials forming a wall, floor, ceiling, or other construction.
<b><i>Rabbet</i></b>	Groove cut in or near the edge of a piece of lumber to receive the edge of another piece.
<b><i>Rafters</i></b>	Structural members of the roof.
<b><i>Rafters – Barge</i></b>	Non-weight bearing rafter at gable end nailed to lookouts.
<b><i>Rafters – Common</i></b>	Runs from ridge rafter to the top plate.
<b><i>Rafter – Hip</i></b>	Runs from hip to top plate.
<b><i>Rafters – Jack</i></b>	Runs from ridge rafter to valley rafter or from hip rafter to plate.
<b><i>Rafters – Valley</i></b>	Runs from ridge to valley.
<b><i>Rafters – Ridge</i></b>	Rafter at highest horizontal point of home.
<b><i>Rake</i></b>	Inclined portion of cornice; angle of slope of a roof rafter, commonly spoken of as the rake of the roof, the gable.
<b><i>Rat Run</i></b>	1 x 4 nailed to tops of ceiling joists to prevent curling, mainly used with trusses.
<b><i>Rebar</i></b>	Steel bars used to reinforce concrete slab.
<b><i>Reglaze</i></b>	Replacement of a broken window.
<b><i>Reinforced Concrete Beam</i></b>	Girders or beams made of concrete which has been strengthened by using of reinforcing steel bars, trenched out of the earth to form during the slab make-up.
<b><i>Reveal</i></b>	Depth of a window or door opening, usually measured from the surface of the exterior wall to the face of the door or window.
<b><i>Ridge</i></b>	Top intersection of two opposite adjoining roof surfaces.
<b><i>Roll Roofing</i></b>	Finish roofing material manufactured in rolls, composed of fibers saturated with asphalt and surfaced with mineral chips or an asphalt coating.
<b><i>Romex – Wiring</i></b>	Type of wiring used by electricians to wire home.
<b><i>Romex Connector</i></b>	Connector used to connect Romex in metal junction boxes.

**Term****Definition*****Roof Insulation***

Insulating material - usually rock wool or fiberglass - in a blanket form placed between the roof rafters or ceiling joists for the purpose of insulating the home.

***Roof Jack***

Lead or plastic covers that come in various widths that fit around vent pipes protruding through roofs to prevent leaks around those pipes.

***Roof Rafters***

Structural members that rest on the plate and support the roof.

***Roof Sheathing***

Boards that provide the base for the finished roof.

***Roofing***

Asphalt shingles - or tile, slate, or metal - that form the outer protection against the weather.

***Rowlock***

Brick laid perpendicular to brick wall with slight overhang for appearance; sometimes sloped for drainage (i.e., under windows).

<b>Term</b>	<b>Definition</b>
<b><i>"S" Hooks</i></b>	Wire hooks shaped like "S"; used to maintain proper positioning of beam cables.
<b><i>Saddle</i></b>	Small structure built on a roof to divert water, usually away from a chimney; also called a cricket.
<b><i>Secondary Drain - A/C</i></b>	Overflow drain stubbed out over a window as a backup in case of primary drain stoppage.
<b><i>Setback</i></b>	Required distance from curb to actual front of home; actual distance from property line to sides of home; distance between a property line and the nearest point at which a building can be built (as established by local ordinance).
<b><i>Sheathing</i></b>	First layer of outer wall covering nailed to the studs.
<b><i>Shim</i></b>	Thin piece of material, usually wood, used to fill in gaps, as when leveling a structural stone, framing member or door.
<b><i>Shiplap</i></b>	L-shaped edge cut into boards and some sheet materials to form overlapping joint with adjacent pieces of the same material. Also, board with shiplapped edge, and the action of cutting such an edge.
<b><i>Siding</i></b>	In general, any exterior material for finishing a wall. More commonly, an exterior material applied horizontally with lapped horizontal joints.
<b><i>Slab</i></b>	Finished concrete foundation.
<b><i>Slump</i></b>	Relative consistency or stiffness of the fresh concrete mix.
<b><i>Soffit</i></b>	Underside of roof overhang; exposed underside of the roof-projection of eaves, frequently with openings for attic ventilation.
<b><i>Soffit Vent</i></b>	Opening cut and covered with screen wire to allow ventilation into attic.
<b><i>Soldier Course</i></b>	Course of brick where the bricks are laid so they are all standing on end with the sides facing out.
<b><i>Solid Bridging</i></b>	Blocking between joists cut from the same material as the joists themselves; used to stiffen the floor.
<b><i>Span</i></b>	Distance between structural supports, measured horizontally.
<b><i>Square</i></b>	At 90° or a right angle; also, the process of cutting at a right angle.
<b><i>Stair Rail</i></b>	Bar used for a handhold when using the stairs.
<b><i>Stair Riser</i></b>	Vertical board connecting one tread to the next.
<b><i>Stair Stringer</i></b>	Sloping board that supports the ends of the steps.

<b>Term</b>	<b>Definition</b>
<b><i>Stair Tread</i></b>	Horizontal strip where we put our foot when climbing stairs.
<b><i>Starter Shingles</i></b>	First row of shingles laid backwards at eaves with ½" to 1" overlap of fascia.
<b><i>Stirrup</i></b>	Device used to hold cables in proper location in beams.
<b><i>Stomp</i></b>	Pattern on ceiling created by dipping a large brush into texture compound.
<b><i>Stressing</i></b>	Application of "pull" on the cables, usually to 80% of breaking strength.
<b><i>Strong Backs</i></b>	Made of usable form lumber; installed on top of ceiling joists, perpendicular to joists and nailed into rafters to tie ceiling joists together.
<b><i>Structural Member</i></b>	Support that is a component of any structure.
<b><i>Stud</i></b>	Vertical structural members of walls - generally 2 x 4 lumber.
<b><i>Stud Shoe</i></b>	Metal reinforcement over 2 x 4 stud when plumbing pipe passes through stud.
<b><i>Subfloor</i></b>	Plywood or other acceptable material that is applied below the finished flooring material.
<b><i>Swale</i></b>	Shallow channel in the grading designed to allow water to drain away from the home. Swales are normally cut down property lines from back to front with the yards on either side sloping towards the swale.

<b>Term</b>	<b>Definition</b>
<b><i>T &amp; G</i></b>	Abbreviation for tongue-and-groove and also for tar-and-gravel.
<b><i>Tee – Framing</i></b>	Intersection of two walls in framing of home.
<b><i>Texture</i></b>	Sand finish over sheetrock prior to paint.
<b><i>Threshold</i></b>	Beveled piece of wood, metal, stone, or concrete set at the sill of a hinged exterior door and sometimes under interior doors, to cover the joint formed between different flooring materials.
<b><i>Toekick</i></b>	Recess under the front of a base cabinet at the floor line.
<b><i>Toenail</i></b>	To nail at an angle to the surface.
<b><i>Top Coat</i></b>	Top coat of paint after home has been primed; final coat.
<b><i>Top Plate</i></b>	Horizontal member nailed to the top of the partition or wall studding.
<b><i>Truss</i></b>	Combination of members, such as beams, bars and ties, usually arranged in triangular units to form a rigid framework for supporting loads over a span. In a roof truss, the top chord replaces a rafter and the bottom chord replaces a ceiling joist.
<b><i>Tub Hangers</i></b>	Metal device nailed to stud used to secure bathtub.

**Term****Definition*****Undercoat***

Lacquer primer applied to all interior raw wood surfaces.

***Underground Electrical Service***

Underground cable connecting home to power source.

<b>Term</b>	<b>Definition</b>
<b><i>Valley</i></b>	Depressed angle formed by the meeting at the bottom of two inclined sides of a roof.
<b><i>Valley Flashing</i></b>	Water proofing the valley either a metal valley pan or by using heavy weight roofing underlayment below shingles.
<b><i>Vapor Barrier</i></b>	Used to prevent moisture from passing from one area to another - walls, slab, etc. - usually polyethylene.
<b><i>Vikon</i></b>	Metal wall protector mounted over the range to protect the wall from grease splatters.

<b>Term</b>	<b>Definition</b>
<b><i>Wall Cover</i></b>	Inner surface of wall; plaster on lath, gypsum board, or plywood.
<b><i>Wall Flashing</i></b>	Flashing at top of roof rake where it meets brick wall (i.e. where front porch attaches to front brick wall).
<b><i>Wall Insulation</i></b>	Blanket of wool, reflective foil, or other insular material placed inside the walls.
<b><i>Wall Out</i></b>	Apply latex paint on all drywalled walls in home.
<b><i>Wall Ties</i></b>	Galvanized metal strip nailed to studs and placed in brick mortar joints to secure brick veneer to frame.
<b><i>Warp</i></b>	Any variation from straight in a piece of lumber.
<b><i>Warranty Date</i></b>	Date mortgage loan is closed.
<b><i>Water Cut-Off</i></b>	Valve at water service to allow turning water off to home - can be outside or inside behind an access panel.
<b><i>Water Service</i></b>	Where water line enters slab to supply water to each home.
<b><i>Water Table</i></b>	Level below the surface to the ground at which water is present.
<b><i>Weep Holes</i></b>	Regular spaces between bricks (usually every 4) on bottom course of wall to allow air circulation and provide a conduit for accumulated moisture to drain from behind the brick wall.
<b><i>Wind Brace (Gable)</i></b>	2 x 4 run from top of gable, back at 45° to beam or top plate in attic space.
<b><i>Window Stool</i></b>	Window sill.
<b><i>Wing Wall</i></b>	Decorative brick wall on front of some homes to give the home a larger appearance.

**Term****Definition*****Zero Lot Line***

Term referring to the manner in which a home is located on a homesite with no setback from one side of the homesite line.