

What is ProFrame®?

ProFrame® is the UK's most eco-friendly, minimum 'carbon-footprint' approach to constructing high-specification timber-frame homes ~ it is also the cheapest quick method of building houses AND the simplest.

It involves only basic carpentry 'skills' and requires NO previous knowledge or experience. Technically; any sub-contractor, builder or DIY enthusiast capable of using a tape measure, a hammer and a saw; can use this approach to build superb timber-frame houses. The judicious use of portable power saws and nailing 'guns' can increase productivity and reduce construction time; however they are NOT essential; nor is the use of scaffolding and/or heavy 'lifting' gear!

- The only essential "pre-qualification" required is that anybody using the method must be conscientious; a 'slap-dash' approach or tendency to look for and/or try to take 'short-cuts' WILL obviously cause major problems; just as it does in every other aspect of life!

Everything that anybody needs to know in order to fabricate and erect timber-frame houses is fully detailed and clearly illustrated, with simple tried and tested 'step-by-step' instructions* designed to avoid potential problems and difficulties before they can arise! (*The system has been evolving since the mid 1970's and is backed up with the benefit of 35 years of hindsight!)

The finished construction is virtually identical to factory-produced 'package-kit' based timber-frame houses. The biggest physical difference being due to the use of ProFrame®'s bespoke structural design software which allows all unnecessary labour and material to be 'designed-out'; saving considerable time, material and money!

The ProFrame® approach also removes the cost of the "main contractor's overheads and profit"; in this case all the factory overheads and on-costs, manufacturer's profit, etc. inherent with using 'package-kits' or 'SIPS'; with NO loss of quality. Achieving "Passivhaus" standards or a "zero-energy home" using the ProFrame® approach is easy; the system can match or better anything that 'SIPS' can achieve AND allows greater design flexibility, avoids ALL the usual 'on-site' problems (caused by using 'factory-produced' components) and delivers huge cost-savings!

Historically; the financial benefits have led to the vast majority of all timber-frame houses; that's some three million-plus timber-frame homes every year; being fabricated on-site, whilst the simplicity of the whole process has allowed ordinary 'DIY' enthusiasts to build well over two hundred thousand houses every year in the USA alone!

“Timber-Frame Houses Built At OR Below Net Trade Prices!”

The ProFrame® approach is ideal for House-Builders, Sub-Contractors & Self-Builders ~ because we take care of ALL the 'technical' stuff for you!

ProFrame® is a bespoke residential timber-frame design and erection system developed and evolved by "Self-Build-Pro (Chartered Surveyors)" to provide a professional alternative to the huge (upfront) cost and financial risks of buying and erecting the retail products marketed by the various commercial 'house-kit' manufacturers.

- Virtually any house design can be adapted and/or converted for timber-frame construction AND can easily meet whatever level of insulation and 'airtightness' performance is required!
- We can source and arrange the delivery of a full 'kit' of materials at net trade prices; as well as providing fully detailed 'step-by-step' assembly and erection information, on-site direction, supervision and certification, etc. to suit your specific requirements.

NB: Originally developed in the 1970's; our evolving structural design programme achieved "pre-approved status" for Building Regulations applications (2003) via becoming a 'partner' with LABC (Local Authority Building Control) and fully complies with CML (Council of Mortgage Lenders) requirements. With existing British Standards for timber-frame construction now totally out-of-date and obsolete following their withdrawal at the end of last year (2010); our all-new "EuroCode Compliant" version of the structural design software already has "pre-approved status" for Building Regulations applications.