



# Residential Planning Guide

Clear-Span | Custom Design | Post-Frame | Efficient | Low Maintenance



#3673







#3745

## Why Choose Morton Buildings for Your Next Home?

There are lots of choices and building styles available for home construction. There are also lots of factors to consider when making a decision on who is going to build your next home.

Morton Buildings utilizes a method known as post-frame construction. Post-frame is defined as an engineered wood-framed building or home that features large laminated columns instead of wood studs. There are many advantages to this method of construction, a few of which can be found below. One common misconception associated with post-frame is that this style of home is a low cost alternative to more conventional methods. Construction costs of your Morton home will be in line with most other custom home builders. Savings on a Morton home can be realized when the owner takes on the responsibility of being the contractor or even performing some of the work.

Morton Buildings is not a full-time home builder. Although we construct hundreds per year, our process is slightly different than those who specialize in residential construction only. More details on our process can be found in this brochure and our website.

While our process is slightly different and often requires more homeowner involvement, it is often the best choice for many people seriously shopping for their dream home. If you were to ask our customers why they chose Morton Buildings for their home some of the common reasons are:

- » **Clear-span Construction.** Using this method we eliminate interior load-bearing walls. This allows for a truly open floor plan that can be easily customized.
- » **Efficiency.** We offer an exclusive Energy Performer® insulation package which is Energy Star® compliant and offers R-values that far exceed other traditional home insulation methods.
- » **Virtually Maintenance Free Exterior.** Using our exclusive Hi-Rib™ steel for your roofing or siding ensures nearly zero maintenance for the owners.
- » **Unmatched Structural Warranty.** Experience a warranty like none other in the home building industry.
- » **Construction Responsibility Options.** When purchasing a Morton home you can choose several levels of involvement based on your knowledge of construction and available time. By being your own contractor Morton can provide a "shell" and you can handle the rest.

# Our Processes at a Glance



- 1 Secure Financing
- 2 Site Selection
- 3 Choose Level of Construction Involvement
- 4 Prepare Plans & Project Costs
- 5 Final Approval From Bank
- 6 Review Plans & Sign Contracts
- 7 Begin Construction



# 1

## Financing.

If financing is required for your next home this is a very important section with a lot to consider. First, Morton Buildings, Inc. does not offer financing to its customer. Most of our customers end up working with a local bank that they have a relationship with.



In the past financing has been a challenge in some cases. Banks, and more specifically appraisers, do not consider post-frame construction a conventional method for building homes. A recommended down payment of 40% is highly suggested to overcome this potential obstacle. Also, with so few post-frame homes being sold after construction there are not many “comps” available for the appraisers. The truth is that most people who build this style of home never sell them.

These issues can cause some challenges during pre-approval. It is important that your bank understands the type of home you are building and who you are working with. It is also important to tell them if you plan to use steel siding and roofing. Depending on the bank you are working with this may impact the term or rates you receive.

Although financing can be a bit more challenging, we have found that with a little more effort and involvement that favorable financing can be secured.

Also, it is important to note that the method for “finishing” the home and who is responsible for that portion of construction may impact the amount which some banks are willing to lend. This will require a budget to be set.

# 2

## Site Selection.

Assuming you already have property, the next step is to determine where on the property your home will be located. Morton Buildings will help through this process but some things to consider include:

- » **Codes:** Check local building codes for restrictions
  - National Fire Protection Association (NFPA) 101: Life Safety Code®
  - Design Loads—impacts cost based on location
- » **Proximity to Utilities:** Closer means less costly
  - Are they available at selected site?
  - What are the water/sewer “tap fees”?
  - What sanitary system is available?
  - Is there access to a well?



- » **Flat Site:** Preparation costs can add up quickly if grading and fill are required
- » **Other Considerations and/or Restrictions:**
  - Deed Restrictions
  - Homeowner Association (HOA) Guidelines
  - Aesthetics Requirements

Other than the structure itself, the selection of your site may have the biggest impact on the overall cost of your project. It is important to consider the following associated costs of each. If you are currently looking to purchase land, be sure to speak with the local permitting authority first.







# 3

## Construction Responsibilities.

There are several levels of involvement you can have when constructing your Morton Buildings home. Depending on what level you decide on can significantly impact the process and costs. Below is a breakdown showing the three most common levels of customer involvement.



| SINGLE SOURCE ACCOUNTABILITY  | *SPLIT SOURCE ACCOUNTABILITY   | CUSTOMER SOURCE ACCOUNTABILITY  |
|---|--|---|
| Morton Buildings provides <b>turnkey construction</b> (limited availability)                              | Morton Buildings provides insulated building shell & general contractor provides all finish beyond insulated shell | Customer acts as general contractor & Morton Buildings completes shell & customer sources all finish beyond insulated shell                                 |
| Financing options are the easiest to obtain with this recognized process of new construction              | Financing options require more work and requirements from the customer   | Most financial institutions will not allow customer to be their own general contractor. This option is usually used when customer is using his/her own cash |
| This method will warrant the <b>highest cost per square foot</b> construction                             | This method will cost a <b>little less than the single source</b> method   | This method will be the customers <b>least expensive option</b>   |
| Once plans are developed this method requires <b>very little day-to-day interaction</b> from the customer | Once plans are developed this method also requires <b>very little day-to-day interaction</b> from the customer     | Once plans are developed this method will still require a <b>lot of day-to-day interaction</b> from the customer  |
| Very little risk when a reputable company is chosen as the general contractor                             | Little risk when both general contractors (shell & finish) are reputable   | Higher risk for errors in the construction process due to the number of contractors that will be involved   |
| One contract for entire project<br><b>\$\$\$</b>  | Most likely <b>two contracts</b> for project<br><b>\$\$</b>  | Multiple contracts for project<br><b>\$</b>   |
|   | * Preferred Method   |   |





# 4

## Preparing Plans & Project Costs.

There are a few steps that are involved in preparing the cost of your project. Within this brochure, you will find some examples of popular home floor plans and the associated cost to construct. Based on this information you should have a fairly good idea of what your Morton home will cost. Also note, based on your level of involvement as explained above, the pricing and timeline may vary.



Morton Buildings does not have pre-designed and priced floor plans. Each design is custom to your needs and pricing will vary based on a number of factors. Because of this it can take longer in some cases to acquire exact pricing on your design.

Getting an accurate price on your Morton home:

1. Choose an existing completed project with minimal modifications
2. Enter into a Morton Design Build contract
  - a. Come up with a design based on your budget
  - b. Come up with a budget based on your design
3. Provide Morton Buildings with your budget

# 5 & 6

## Final Steps Prior to Construction.

### >> Finalize financing and payment schedule

Working with Morton, and potentially your bank, your funds and payment schedule will be verified. Once this step is complete the contracts can be signed.

may also need to arrange contracts with a general contractor or specific subcontractors. Also, it's important to note that any significant changes to your project after this point will require a change order and this can affect the schedule of your construction.

### >> Review Plans & Sign Contracts

This process will vary based on your selected level of involvement (See Step 3). You will only sign one contract with Morton Buildings. However, based on that previous selection you





# 7

## Construction.

This is where your home begins coming to life. The construction process and timelines will vary greatly based on the complexity of your project.





# Ranch Insulated House Shell



Option 1

Dimensions: 36' x 10' x 50'

Floors: 1

Potential Living Area: 1,800 sq. ft.

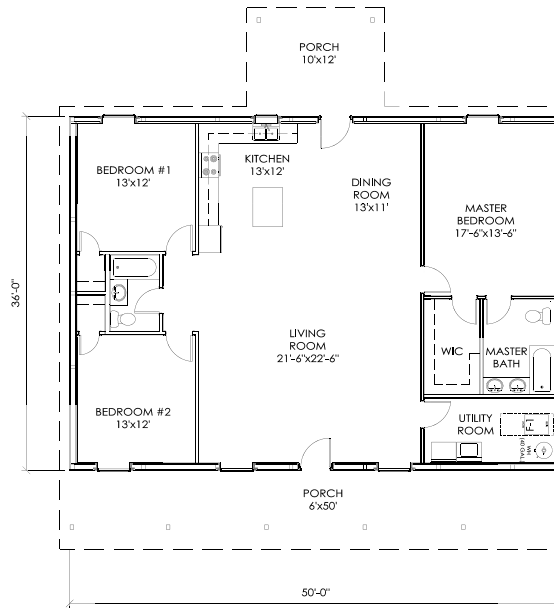
## Shell Details:

- » 50 linear feet of 6' wide finished porch with molded aluminum ceiling soffits and column covers
- » 12 linear feet of 10' wide finished porch with molded aluminum ceiling soffits and column covers
- » 1' finished overhangs with vented sidewall overhangs and continuous vented ridge
- » Wainscoting and protective liner
- » Gutters and downspouts on all sidewalls
- » 4/12 roof pitch
- » 8-vinyl double-pane, Low-E glass windows
- » 2-steel entry doors with 9-lite double-pane windows on top half
- » 6" thick blanket insulation (R-19) uncompressed on all exterior walls with 2" x 4" nailers spaced 16" OC ready for customers interior finish
- » 12" thick blown-in insulation (R-38) in entire attic. Attic created by 2" x 4" nailers spaced 16" OC on entire ceiling, ready for customer's interior ceiling finish
- » .019 Hi-Rib™ steel on all sidewalls and roof with FLUOROFLEX® 1000 paint system and 35-year paint warranty
- » Fully erected on your prepared site with no overhead or underground obstructions
- » Full Morton warranty

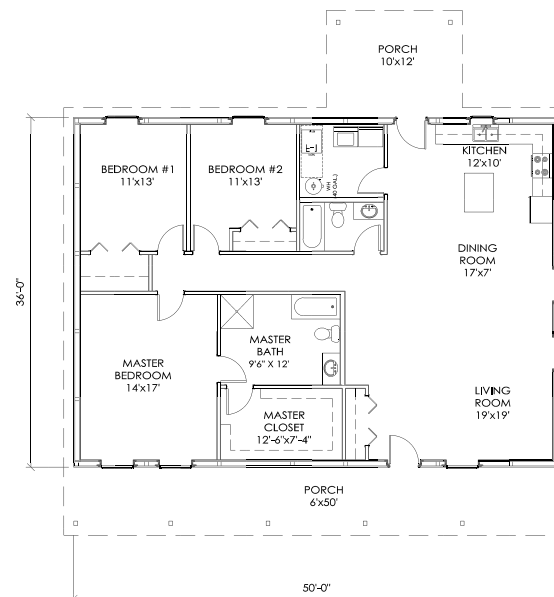
*Note: No interior walls or finish work included in shell option*

Starting at: \$63,700/\$36 per sq. ft.  
without concrete

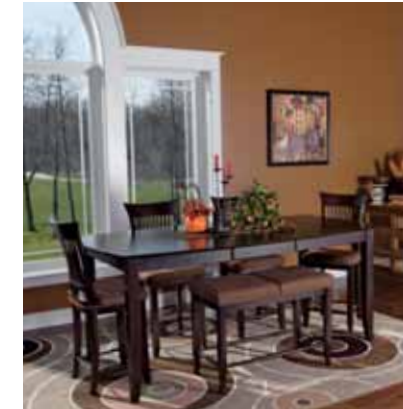
## Potential Finished Layout & Cost



FLOOR PLAN OPTION 1



FLOOR PLAN OPTION 2



While Morton will provide the insulated shell of your home, additional varying costs to finish the home may be necessary and can affect the final budget of your project.

Additional items such as concrete, heating and air conditioning, electricity, interior walls, flooring, countertops, cabinets and plumbing with fixtures must be considered when planning your project.

Finishing costs  
can range from  
\$50 to \$100 per sq. ft.



# Ranch Insulated House Shell



### Option 2

Dimensions: 36' x 10' x 50'

Floors: 1

Potential Living Area: 1,800 sq. ft.

### Option 3

Dimensions: 36' x 10' x 50'

Floors: 1 + 1/2

Potential Living Area: 2,800 sq. ft.

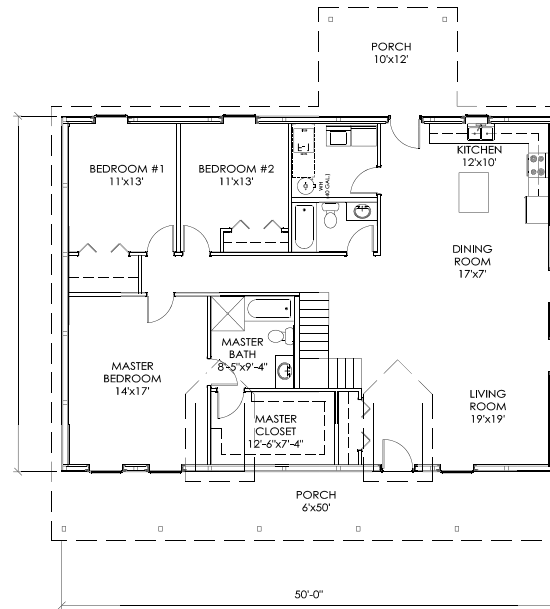
### Shell Details:

- » 50 linear feet of 6' wide finished porch with molded aluminum ceiling soffits and column covers
- » 12 linear feet of 10' wide finished porch with molded aluminum ceiling soffits and column covers
- » 1' finished overhangs with vented sidewall overhangs and continuous vented ridge
- » 3' high brick wainscoting on entire building.
- » 5" HardiePlank® horizontal siding on entire building above brick wainscot
- » 2-5' x 4' gable dormers, functional with 3' x 3' insulated vinyl windows with Low-E glass
- » Gutters and downspouts on all sidewalls
- » 7/12 roof pitch
- » 8-vinyl double-pane, Low-E glass windows
- » 2-steel entry doors with 9-lite double-pane windows on top half
- » 6" thick blanket insulation (R-19) uncompressed on all exterior walls with 2" x 4" nailers spaced 16" OC ready for customers interior finish
- » 12" thick blown-in insulation (R-38) in entire attic. Attic created by 2" x 4" nailers spaced 16" OC on entire ceiling, ready for customers interior ceiling finish.
- » No attic on story and a half version, insulation is placed at the roofline
- » Fully erected on your prepared site with no overhead or underground obstructions
- » Full Morton warranty

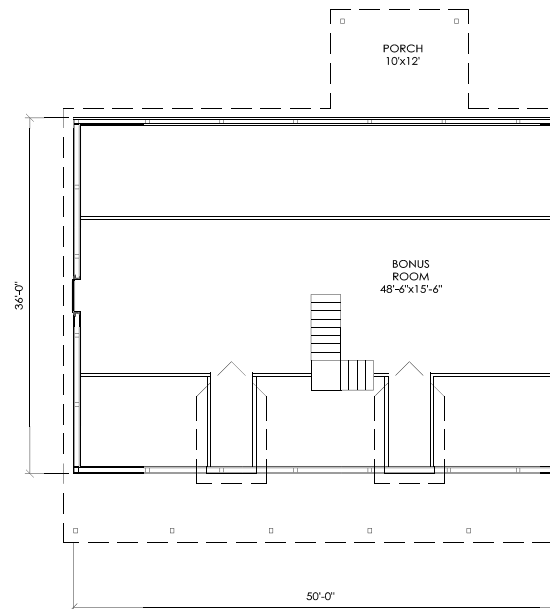
Note: No interior walls or finish work included in shell option

Starting at: \$106,322/\$60 per sq. ft. (Option 2)  
 or \$124,564/\$45 per sq. ft. (Option 3)  
 without concrete

## Potential Finished Layout & Cost



FIRST FLOOR PLAN



SECOND FLOOR PLAN



While Morton will provide the insulated shell of your home, additional varying costs to finish the home may be necessary and can affect the final budget of your project.

Additional items such as concrete, heating and air conditioning, electricity, interior walls, flooring, countertops, cabinets and plumbing with fixtures must be considered when planning your project.

Finishing costs can range from \$50 to \$100 per sq. ft.

# 2-Story Insulated House Shell



### Option 1

Dimensions: 30' x 20' x 50'

Floors: 2

Potential Living Area: 3,000 sq. ft.

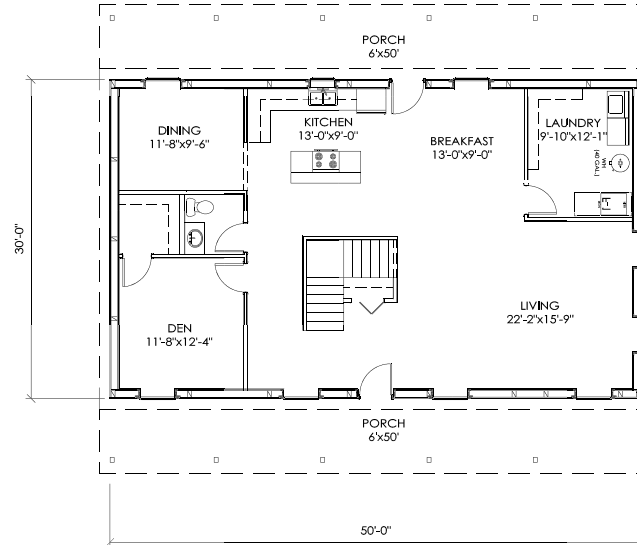
### Shell Details:

- » 100 linear feet of 6' wide finished porch with molded aluminum ceiling soffits and column covers (50 feet on each side)
- » 1' finished overhangs with vented sidewall overhangs and continuous vented ridge
- » 3' high wainscoting and protective liner on entire building
- » .019 Hi-Rib™ steel on all walls and roof with FLUOROFLEX® 1000 paint system with 35-year paint warranty
- » Gutters and downspouts on all sidewalls and porches
- » 4/12 roof pitch
- » 15-vinyl double-pane, Low-E glass windows
- » 2-entry doors with 9-lite double-pane windows on top half
- » Entire second story deck installed. Composed of 2" x 12" joists 16" OC with ¾" tongue-and-groove plywood decking. Will require interior supports or be supported by customers interior stud walls
- » 6" thick blanket insulation (R-19) uncompressed on all exterior walls with 2" x 4" nailers spaced 16" OC ready for customers interior finish
- » 12" thick blown-in insulation (R-38) in entire attic. Attic created by 2" x 4" nailers spaced 16" OC on entire ceiling, ready for customers interior ceiling finish.
- » Fully erected on your prepared site with no overhead or underground obstructions
- » Full Morton warranty

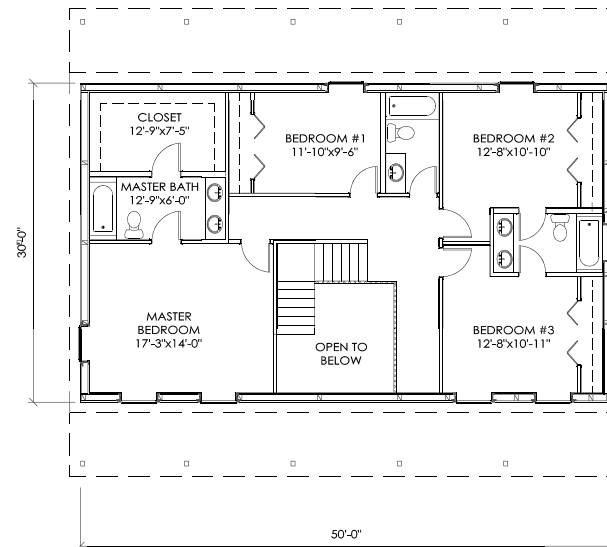
Note: No interior walls or finish work included in shell option

Starting at: \$101,732/\$34 per sq. ft. without concrete

## Potential Finished Layout & Cost



FIRST FLOOR PLAN



SECOND FLOOR PLAN



While Morton will provide the insulated shell of your home, additional varying costs to finish the home may be necessary and can affect the final budget of your project.

Additional items such as concrete, heating and air conditioning, electricity, interior walls, flooring, countertops, cabinets and plumbing with fixtures must be considered when planning your project.

Finishing costs can range from \$50 to \$100 per sq. ft.

# 2-Story Insulated House Shell



**Option 2**

**Dimensions:** 30' x 20' x 50'

**Floors:** 2

**Potential Living Area:** 3,000 sq. ft.

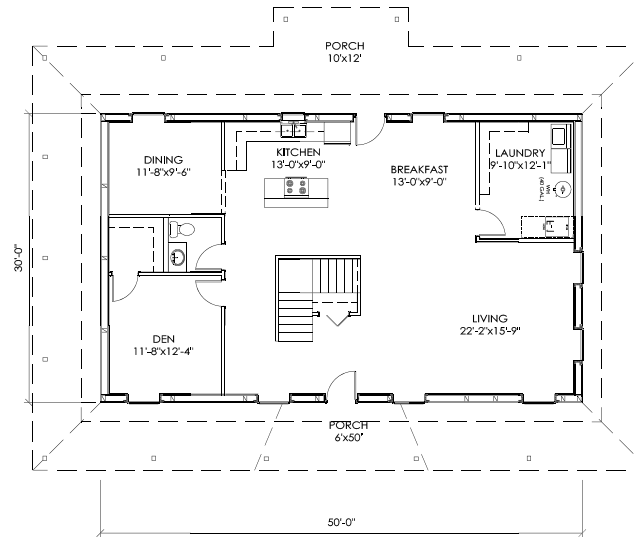
### Shell Details:

- » 224 linear feet of 6' wide finished porch with molded aluminum ceiling soffits and column covers (porch wraps around the entire building)  
Center of front porch has a gable entry
- » 2' finished overhangs with vented sidewall overhangs and continuous vented ridge
- » 3' high brick wainscoting with brick entry and brick columns on porch
- » 5" HardiePlank® horizontal siding on entire building above stone wainscoting
- » 50-year shingles entire roof including porches
- » Gutters and downspouts on all sidewalls and porches
- » 7/12 roof pitch
- » 17-vinyl double-pane, Low-E glass windows with vinyl shutters
- » 2-3068 steel entry doors with 9-lite double-pane windows on top half
- » Entire second story deck installed. Composed of 2" x 12" joists 16" OC with ¾" tongue-and-groove plywood decking. Will require interior supports or be supported by customers interior stud walls
- » 6" thick blanket insulation (R-19) uncompressed on all exterior walls with 2" x 4" nailers spaced 16" OC ready for customers interior finish
- » 12" thick blown-in insulation (R-38) in entire attic. Attic created by 2" x 4" nailers spaced 16" OC on entire ceiling, ready for customers interior ceiling finish.
- » Fully erected on your prepared site with no overhead or underground obstructions
- » Morton Foundation System
- » Full Morton warranty

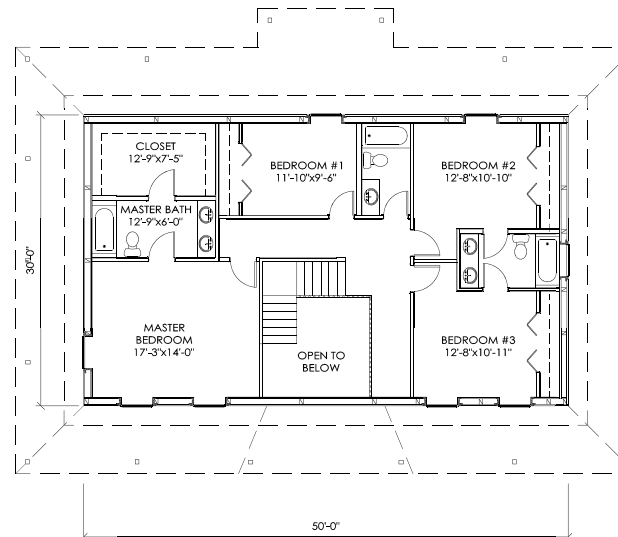
*Note: No interior walls or finish work included in shell option*

Starting at: \$202,813/\$67 per sq. ft.  
without concrete

## Potential Finished Layout & Cost



FIRST FLOOR PLAN



SECOND FLOOR PLAN



While Morton will provide the insulated shell of your home, additional varying costs to finish the home may be necessary and can affect the final budget of your project.

Additional items such as concrete, heating and air conditioning, electricity, interior walls, flooring, countertops, cabinets and plumbing with fixtures must be considered when planning your project.

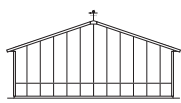
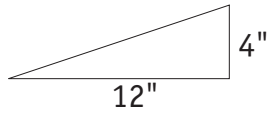
Finishing costs  
can range from  
\$50 to \$100 per sq. ft.



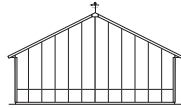


# Roof Pitch

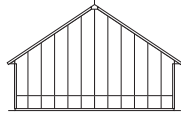
A 4/12 roof pitch is when the roof rises 4 inches for every 12 inches of horizontal run.



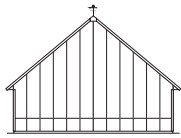
4/12 PITCH



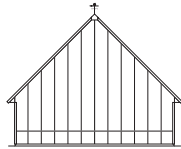
6/12 PITCH



8/12 PITCH



10/12 PITCH



12/12 PITCH



# Roofing Materials

In addition to Morton's Hi-Rib™ steel roofing, you can also choose shingles or tiles for your building's roof. These roofing options are a great way to achieve a custom look for your home.



Shingled Roof



Steel Roof

# Roof Types and Styles

Morton's roofs are designed for long-term good looks, and they're available in a variety of colors and roof pitches. To enhance the style and function of your building, explore the many available options such as: a roof extension to create a wraparound porch, gable dormers for a traditional look, or a welcoming entry porch, to name a few.



Gable



Hip with Gable Entry



Gambrel



Deep Fascia



Gable Dormer



Step Fascia



Monitor



Turkey Tail



Eyebrow



Dutch Hip



Wraparound Porch



Pitch Break





## Siding

From traditional, low-maintenance Hi-Rib™ steel in a variety of colors, to brick, HardiePlank® or HardiePanel® and cultured stone, you choose the siding that best fits your style or your building's surroundings.



Steel



HardiePanel® or HardiePlank®



Brick



Wood

## Wainscot

Wainscot is both a practical and aesthetically pleasing element to add to your building's exterior. It allows for different color schemes and breaks the vertical lines of your building's walls. Several options are available for wainscot including: Novabrik™, masonry, Hi-Rib steel and stone.



Steel Wainscot



Masonry Wainscot



Novabrik™ Wainscot



Stone Wainscot

## Overhangs

Overhangs work with functional cupolas to provide even more ventilation in your building.



Vented Soffit



Non-Vented Soffit



Tapered End Overhangs

## Cool Roof Colors

Morton offers several "cool roof" paint colors that are ENERGY STAR® approved for reflectivity. These approved colors help to reflect sunlight and keep heat out of the building, which helps to keep the building cooler and reduce cooling loads.



\*Indicates FLUOROFLEX® cool roof colors that are ENERGY STAR® label qualified.



## Gutters and Downspouts

Gutters and downspouts keep the sides of your building clean by directing water away from the building. They also reduce corrosion, erosion and condensation around your building. Our heavy-gauge aluminum gutters and galvanized steel downspouts are finished with FLUOROFLEX® 1000 paint in a variety of colors to match or accent your building.



Gutter & Downspout







## Windows and Shutters

Add natural lighting and improve the ventilation in your building by including windows. We offer a premium line of Pella® windows with double- and triple-pane glazing options that are ENERGY STAR® compliant.

Raised-panel or open-louvered 12" or 15" vinyl shutters enhance the beauty of your building and are available in a variety of attractive colors to match or accent your building.



## Dormers and Porches

Dormers and porches extend the character and functionality of your home. Porches can provide additional shelter and can also be a great place to sit back and relax. Various styles and sizes are available.



## Walk Doors

Walk doors for your Morton home are a matter of personal preference. The material used and looks can vary greatly based on your budget. As a general rule, doors can range from a price as low as \$500 all the way up to several thousand. Whether you're looking for a basic steel door, or a high-end wood or fiberglass door, Morton has relationships with several manufacturers to ensure you get the right door for you at the right price.



Morton FiberSteel® Door



Pella® Wood Door



Pella® Steel Door



Pella® Fiberglass Door



Pella® Wood Doors



Pella® Fiberglass Doors



Pella® Fiberglass Door



Pella® Steel Door







# Attached Garages

There are three different options for adding a garage to your Morton building home. Each of the following is different in terms of complexity and pricing.

- » **Extending Building Length**
- » **Endwall Connection**
- » **Sidewall Connection with Valley**

Each style of garage connection has a different look and functions differently. See below for examples. If a detached garage better suits your needs, your Sales Consultant can quickly create a proposal for that as well.

There are a lot of different garage configurations that will work with your Morton home. As a general rule, the pricing on a 2-car garage can add as little as \$20,000 to your project. That cost will increase based on the complexity of the attachment to your home and the features you choose to add to the garage.





# Morton Buildings For All Your Building Needs



Agriculture



Garage & Residential Storage



Horse Barn



Riding Arena



Fire Station & Municipal



Mini-Storage



Commercial/Office/Retail



Church & Activity Centers



Veterinarian & Kennel

Price, construction details and material specifications shown are subject to change without notice. Colors reproduced in this brochure are for illustrative purposes only and may vary from actual colors or finishes. Certain features shown are non-stock items and may be purchased through your local Morton Buildings construction center. Options and features shown may not be available on all building types or styles. The statements and opinions about products expressed here are those of specific customers and should not be construed to represent all buildings or products sold, manufactured, distributed or constructed by Morton Buildings.

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