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## HOME DESIGN QUESTIONNAIRE

NAME \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS (current) \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS (of the proposed property) \_\_\_\_\_

HOME PHONE / WORK PHONE / EMAIL \_\_\_\_\_

*To help us develop a home design that will best accommodate your lifestyle we would like to ask you a few questions about the way you live, what you expect in your home design, and the land you are planning to build on. The following checklist will help you put your ideas on paper! Our team produces house plans with the focus being on spatial design and structural elements. Certain finishing details may be omitted such as paint colour, cabinet design, lighting units, etc. **Please Feel free to skip any questions.** This is an in-depth questionnaire, and you are not expected to have anticipated answers to all of the questions below.*

### SITE...

Does your site have any special view that you would like us to consider? Which direction?

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Do you know your lot dimensions?

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Can you describe the terrain of your site? Do you have a topography contour/plan?

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Do you know of any protected vegetation on your site?

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Do you know of any significant historical considerations which need the attention of government or other parties?

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Do you have access to utility services, i.e. water, electricity, gas, sewage, cable, Internet cable?

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Will the building platform have easy access for vehicles?

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Will earthworks be required? Will the site be excavated flat?

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Do you know the zoning of your property?

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What County are you in and do have you been in contact with your Planning and Building Department?

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## ARCHITECTURAL PREFERENCES...

Which architectural style do you prefer?

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How many levels would you like to have?

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The following is a list of rooms. Please indicate how many of each you require beside each room, and any details about the space.

Kitchen\_\_\_\_\_

Dining\_\_\_\_\_

Breakfast\_\_\_\_\_

Living\_\_\_\_\_

Games Room\_\_\_\_\_

Master Bedroom\_\_\_\_\_

Bedrooms\_\_\_\_\_

GuestRoom\_\_\_\_\_

Office\_\_\_\_\_

Library\_\_\_\_\_

TV room\_\_\_\_\_

Bathrooms\_\_\_\_\_

Half-bathrooms\_\_\_\_\_

Laundry\_\_\_\_\_

Storage\_\_\_\_\_

Closets\_\_\_\_\_

Semi-outdoor rooms\_\_\_\_\_

Garage\_\_\_\_\_

Covered Parking\_\_\_\_\_

Shed\_\_\_\_\_

Other\_\_\_\_\_

If you will be needing a garage, do you want it to be attached or detached from the main house?

\_\_\_\_\_

Do you have any special needs for the garage such multi-car capacity, storage or workshop?

\_\_\_\_\_

Where would you like the laundry room to be located?

\_\_\_\_\_

Would you like any special kind of windows (i.e. bay window) or doors?

\_\_\_\_\_

We typically advise a lime-based plaster finish for the exterior, and a clay and/or lime finish for the interior. Have you thought of any special color for the plaster finishes? Below is a sample of colors for consideration, and color matching can also be achieved.

Visit <https://biolime.com/color/pigments/> for more information on lime plaster color options from BioLime.



Lintels are the supporting beams that support the blocks over windows and doors. There are a variety of ways lintels can be installed, including arches. Would you like for your openings to have timber lintels (recycled or milled), concrete lintels (exposed or adobe plaster), or adobe brick arches (Roman or Gothic), or concealed lintels? Below is a variety of different lintel types.



Top Left: Concealed Lintels  
Left: Exposed Timber Lintel  
Top Right: Recycled Timber Lintel



Lower Left: Low Camber Arch

Lower Middle: Gothic Arch

Lower Right: Semi-circular Arch

## GENERAL DESIGN FEATURES...

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Do you have any special ceiling treatments in mind? If so, please specify for each room?

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Will any of the rooms be "sunken"?

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What type of flooring material would you like for each room?

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Do you have special furniture to consider?

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Do you anticipate a television? In which rooms would you like a TV?

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In which rooms would you like a dedicated bathroom?

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Would you like to have alcoves in the earthen walls? If so, how many and in which rooms?

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Are there any special design features you've been dreaming about? CEB construction can lend itself to just about any classical, and modern, architectural elements that you can imagine. Arches? Domes? Let us know your vision!

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## **FIREPLACE...**

Are you considering a fireplace? If so, what type of fireplace are you considering? (Fireplace insert, masonry fireplace, or free standing stove?)

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Will the fireplace be wood burning or gas?

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## **ROOF...(if you're not sure about any of these questions, don't worry, we can help you with these questions during the design process).**

Would you like a flat or a pitched roof? If pitched, would you like steep or shallow pitch?

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Would you like a hip roof, gable roof, or other? If gable, are the gable ends built from adobe brick or timber frame?

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Would you like for the roof to be built from trusses, concealed rafters, exposed rafters or combination? If exposed rafters, what type of timber and in which rooms?

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Would you like for your roofing material to be Asphalt Shingles, Metal Roofing, Concrete Tiles, Onduline, Decrabond, Shingles, Terra Cotta Tiles, Slate, or other?

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What timber would you like to be used for facing boards? (painted cedar, raw cedar, or other)

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Would you like the roof to be insulated with fibreglass insulation, wool insulation, blown cellulose, Styrofoam, or other?

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Would you like guttering to be plastic, ColorSteel, or copper?

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If you prefer to have skylights, in which rooms would you like to have them? What size?

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## **WINDOW AND DOOR JOINERY**

Will your joinery be aluminum, PVC, finger-jointed pine (needs paint or whitewash), cedar, or other?

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If aluminum, what material would you like for the jambs? (finger-jointed pine, cedar or other)?

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Would you like your Entry door to be solid timber? If so, factory made, recycled, or hand-crafted?

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## **INTERNAL FITTINGS AND FINISHES**

Would you like for your internal walls to be built from timber frame, or adobe/CEB? If timber frame, what will be the lining? (sheetrock or TG&V). Would you prefer for the division between the living areas & bedroom areas to be adobe brick?

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Would you like your internal doors to be HDF (paint-able), timber skin, louvered or hand-crafted?

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Would you like your architraves to be from HDF (paint-able), finger-jointed Pine, or other?

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Would you like your adobe brick walls to be finished with skirtings (desirable, but not necessary)? If so, do you want timber, tiles or other? What size?

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## **ABOUT YOUR LIFESTYLE...**

How many members are in your family and what are their ages?

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Do the children require separate bedrooms?

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Do you require a special place for any activities or hobbies?

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Where does your family spend the most time together?

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Would you like to have an activities/games room?

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Would you like a pool? What type? How big?

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## **ROOM REQUIREMENTS...**

### **Foyer**

Would you like to have an entry room/foyer? If so, large, medium or small?

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Would you like to have doors to close it off?

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### **Dining Room**

Would you like to have a separate dining room and/or a breakfast room in the kitchen?

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How many people do you intend to dine in the dining room?

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Would you like outside access from the dining room?

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Are there any special furnishings to consider?

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## **Kitchen**

What size kitchen do you prefer?

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How many people will be sitting down to eat at a given time?

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Would you like your kitchen to be open to the other areas of the house, or is it a separate room?

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Would you like to have an island?

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Would you like to have a breakfast bar in your kitchen?

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What type of counter-tops would you like? (timber, tile, marble, synthetic, etc.)

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What type of cabinetry would you like?

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Would you like your pantry to be walk-in? What size?

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Would you like any special appliances?

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Do you prefer a gas or an electric stove?

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Would you like to include a wood fired range in the kitchen?

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Would you like to have a servery to the outside of the building, or to the dining room?

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Would you like to have a door for outside-access? Or garage access? Or both?

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Would you like to have a recycling station and compost?

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Would you like to have a floor drain in the kitchen?

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## **Living Room**

Would you like this to be a large room, medium or small?

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Will the main television be located in the living room? If not, where?

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Would you like outside access from this room? French doors or single?

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Would you like a courtyard or deck off of the living room?

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Would you like the living room to be sunken? If so, by how many steps?

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## **Home Office**

Would you like to have a separate home office or will it be part of another room?

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Will you require a library in this office (i.e. bookshelves)? How many books will you hold?

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Do you required any special electrical or cable needs?

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Would you like it to have outside access?

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Do you require a closet for this room? If so, what size?

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## **Master Bedroom**

In which level would you like the Master Bedroom to be located?

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What size will the room be, large, medium, small?

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Would you like it to be in a separate part of the house away from the other bedrooms?

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Would you like to have porch, deck, or courtyard access?

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Would you prefer to have a walk-in closet? How many?

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## Master Bedroom En-suite

Would you like to have a master bedroom En-suite?

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Would you like to have a shower, a bath, or both?

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What style of bath-tub do you prefer?

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Should the toilet be in a separate room? Or closed off from the bathroom? Would you like a bidet?

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## Bedrooms

In which level would you like the Bedrooms to be located? How many upstairs/downstairs?

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What size will the rooms be, large, medium, small?

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Would you like to have porch, deck, or courtyard access?

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Would you prefer to have a walk-in closet? How many?

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## **Bathrooms**

How many bathrooms would you like to have, aside from the En-suite?

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Will any of the bedrooms be sharing a jointed bathroom?

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In which bathrooms would you like to have a shower, a bath, or both?

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What style of bath-tub do you prefer?

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Would you like a bidet? In which bathrooms?

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Would you like any half-baths (toilet and basin only)? How many? Where are they located?

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## **Laundry**

What type of appliances will be located in the laundry – side-by-side washer/dryer or stackable unit? Do you require a sink or cabinets?

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Where would you like the laundry room to be located?

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Do you require outside access?

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What size laundry room do you require, large, medium, small?

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## **Mechanical Systems**

How do you plan to heat and cool your home?

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Other mechanical requirements?

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## **BUDGET**

What is the anticipated amount you intend to spend on the construction of your home? (not including the value of the land, driveway, power, water – think structure only).

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Understanding that typical construction costs can range from \$150 to \$300/sqft (depending on the type of finishes you choose, location of your project, and your involvement), what square footage do you have in mind? Include both Finished and Non-finished space.

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**Other (if applicable)...**

Will you use a standard septic (if allowable by Planning & Building Departments) or a more expensive modern processing system?

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Please list any other must-haves not previously covered...

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Other comments...

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If you are able, could you please provide us with the following:

- Any sketches, pictures, magazines photos, you have which describe the type of design you like.
- Your Certificate of Title (usually available from your Solicitor or Bank).
- A Site Plan & Contour Plan (usually available from your Surveyor, Real Estate Agent, or Council).
- Any plans which show existing structures on your site.
- Any site photos that you may have.