

The Advantages of Steel Buildings

I have a friend who is currently deployed to Iraq. He left a few months ago and will be deployed for a year and a half. He sends me frequent e mail updates and digital photos, which helps me understand a little about what his daily life is like. When he left, I pictured him living in a tent in the wind and sand. Quite the contrary. His unit is living in prefabricated steel buildings.

To make myself more comfortable about the thought of my good friend going about his daily routine in a set of steel buildings in a hostile environment, I decided to learn more about these things. After all, my most vivid experience with steel buildings like that was from the drivers education class I took in high school. We had prefab structures for extra classrooms, while our high school was being remodeled. It felt a bit like being in a big huge RV. I hopped on the internet and easily found a few companies that offer steel buildings for both commercial and residential purposes. The Government Services Administration has approved a lot of steel buildings for government use, including use by all branches of the military. Steel buildings are used commercially for hangars, boat storage and warehouses. A structure can be chosen, shipped and erected within a very short time frame. Steel buildings require less structural beams and trusses, so they offer more usable space than traditional structures. With no gutters to clean or siding to maintain, the [steel buildings](#) require almost no upkeep.

Home owners can see the advantages of steel buildings over traditional structures too. There are usually 5 to 10 basic styles from which to choose. With just a few people, these steel buildings can be erected easily. The majority of the construction can be done on the ground without special tools. People often purchase these buildings for garages. I remember my grandparents building a new steel garage on their farm when I was growing up. A construction crew built it from soup to nuts. Had these prefab steel buildings been available back then, I am sure they would have chosen that as an easier and do it yourself route. They would have probably chosen one of the companies that advertises that their buildings are 100 percent American made from US steel.

It was interesting to read about the GSA approvals, ease of construction, cost effectiveness and low maintenance of steel buildings. For my friend who is deployed, the fact that they are made of good old fashioned strong steel is probably what is most important.

About the Author

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