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From the very early, roughly ten thousand years back to be precise, human species started to live in permanent homes. Ever since, humans have been trying to build durable, weatherproof and safe houses. In the process they have experimented with different styles and materials.

Construction experts and civil engineers always advise to use locally available material for house building. However, in modern times the high standard of living has enabled the people to own or build customized houses. Kit homes or kit houses are the kind of custom-built buildings.

What are kit homes? Called by different names as ready-cut houses, catalogue homes or pre-cut houses, especially in the USA, kit homes or kit houses are prefabricated buildings. These were quite popular in the US in during the first half of the 20th century, from where it spread all over the world.

The variants of kit homes are kit homes sheds, which are also prefabricated structures but they are used for storage and other purposes. Many people confuse kit homes with portable houses but there is a vast difference between the both. While portable houses can be temporary buildings that can be dismantled and relocated elsewhere, kit homes and kit homes sheds are permanent buildings.

The design and style of kit homes and kit homes sheds are quite similar to that of houses traditionally built houses. The difference is in construction method. While in standard houses every activity is carried out at the construction site, in case of kit houses the following simple process is used.

" After selection of design, the kit house manufacturer will deliver pre-cut and pre-numbered timber logs and pieces at the site.

" Customer would have to arrange for foundation laying, brickwork and masonry part of the construction both before and after the delivery of pre-cut timber.

" The already numbered timber pieces are then assembled and nailed step-by-step.

The manufacturers also provide nails, hardware and painting material. This saves a lot (up to 40% of the traditionally build house by some estimates) of cost. How is it possible? Customers save money that they would have otherwise spent on carpentry labor, measuring, cutting, waste material, and most important of all, time. Besides the above benefits, customers get high quality, machine cut timber pieces that are guaranteed to fit. Moreover, kit homes allow the flexibility of rearranging walls, doors and windows and other structures. Some manufacturers even provide plumbing, electrical, and heating systems for an additional charge.

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