

Building your own home

A two-day course for first-time selfbuilders covering the crucial dos and don'ts

Benefit from the knowledge of those who've done it before. This course could save you thousands of pounds worth of errors during the build process. From finding the correct plot and dealing with builders and sub-contractors through to the pros and cons of the various building techniques, sourcing the most suitable materials for your project and how to undertake site management. This two-day course includes the opportunity to discuss your own requirements and concerns.

Booking details

Course costs £150 per day

Course location: SmartLife Centre, Cambridge (close to A14 and East Coast Mainline Rail).

Course fees include refreshments (including tea and coffee and a finger buffet lunch).

Accommodation is available to attendees. Please call 01480 893833 for details.



Course Outline

1. Finding a Plot * Buying a plot * Self builds * Utilising part of your land/garden * Conversions * Renovations/extensions
2. Assessing the Plot * Assessing the values * Deciding what you can build * Planning Permission * Access * Drains and Services * Legal problems * Ground conditions and trees
3. Buying property in England, Scotland and Wales * Differences between the systems
4. Land Buying * Incomplete or defective title * Adverse possession and boundary disputes * Expired or non-existent planning permission * Planning conditions not met * Rights of access, way and shared access * Footpaths * Compulsory Purchase * Covenants and easements * Wildlife, Contaminated land and Archaeological interest
5. Difficult Sites * Detailed look at potential site problems
6. Design * Achievements desired * Budget * Internal and external * Use of different rooms
7. Working with Architects * Finding the right Architect for your project
8. Planning Permission * Permission process * Different types of consent * Potential problems
9. Dealing with the Planners * How to achieve your permission
10. Building Regulations * Thorough assessment of building regulations/warrants * Summary of Building regs.
11. Environmental and Social Issues * Looking at Environmental and Social Issues effecting your home and surrounding land
12. Renovating for profit * Specific look at renovation for the purpose of profit
13. Building to a low budget * Methods to build economically
14. Construction techniques * Traditional and Modern forms of construction
15. Budget and Finance * Budget elements * Costs * Building Societies * Tax * VAT * Inheritance (gift) tax * Capital gains tax * Warranties * Insurance
16. How to find a reliable builder * What and how to check
17. Building with Subcontractors * Choosing, talking to, dealing with and paying subcontractors
18. Dealing with suppliers * On the internet, at home or abroad, ensuring your products will be reliable and of a good quality
19. Health and Safety * The various statutory requirements for a building site

Please note that the tutors may not stick rigidly to this list and we cannot guarantee that all items will be covered.

www.selfbuildcourses.co.uk