

GETTING STARTED WITH YOUR SHELTER CUSTOMIZATION

1. **Pick a Location:** Your building must be level from side to side.

- If you can't excavate, we can design a variation.
- End to end slope is okay but **if it is more than 1%, we need to know.**
- If you are butting against a building, there may need to be some extra hoops in the first 12' of length.
- **The building behind something does not provide shelter.** You actually increase wind turbulence.

2. **Pick a width:** Most of our standard widths can easily be modified if it needs to be specific. The widest we do with **engineered drawings** is 30' but have supplied up to 36' wide.

3. **Pick a length:** Any length is possible; simply by adding hoops. If you are building between 2 fixed points, the last hoop spacing can be modified to fit the spot.

4. **Pick a height:** We have 7 lengths of steel to pick from and do not bend anything until we get an order.

- Building higher will improve the **snow shedding** characteristics of the building.
- Building higher gives more interior space close to the wall but the structure catches more wind.
- Since building higher catches more wind, the structure may require reduced hoop spacing.
- Building higher will be a little more costly to heat but does improve natural air circulation.
- Building lower will decrease snow shedding and may require closer hoop spacing.

5. **Pick a base or foundation:** The standard package comes with Base Brackets under each hoop to secure the building to a beam.

This beam can be ground-mounted or on blocks, posts, slabs or shipping containers.

We can supply a welded steel base rail if the structure needs to be **movable.**

We can supply Anchor Posts. Each hoop would sit on a post that may need to be set into concrete.

Please remember that there simply is no such thing as too many anchors.

6. **Pick a cover:** The standard **covers** we offer are 12 mil white tarp and 7.2mil (white or clear) plastic. The white tarp has a typical 8-10 year life and gives summer shade and winter light.

7.2mil clear plastic must be used for plants. The typical life span is 5-6 years.

7.2mil white plastic is used where shade is important but still needs light. Typical life is 4-6 years.

Doubling up on plastic reduces heat loss by 30%, minimizes condensation and increases life span by 50%

7. **Determine ventilation:** Roll-up Side Walls are an economical add-on to our greenhouses or livestock shelters to provide natural ventilation.

Roof vents and exhaust fans are also available options

8. **Building ends:** Our package prices include covers for both ends.

The **assembly guide** gives pointers on framing **Ends**

We can supply steel frame ends, with or without a variety of sizes and types of doors.

If you haven't had a look yet, our **installation guide** has quite a few pointers and tips on things you may need to consider for your unique application as well.