

1. A Fallllll House can be built anywhere. Make modifications to the insulation and airflow systems according to your local climate, and be sure to find or construct a suitable base of flat concrete as a foundation.
2. The skeleton of the house are two concentric rectangles of wall, made simply from cinder-blocks. The house exists in the space between the two rectangles, and a protected courtyard is formed inside the walls of the smaller rectangles. Add a simple roof to cover the rooms of the house. Choose a material for the roof according to climate.
3. Place most of the windows facing the interior courtyard. Only use exterior windows if they offer a view permanently unobstructed by construction.
4. The larger rectangle should be not only bigger than the smaller rectangle, but also should be proportionately longer, so that an abundance of interior volume is collected at one side. In other words, the house should have long slender rooms on three sides, and one side which is bulkier and can contain more rooms. Ideally, the bathroom, kitchen, and a separate storage area for anything not used every day should be tucked in this part of the house.
5. Use techniques to soundproof the rooms from each other, so that the small house is not loud.
6. Fill the courtyard with a garden. Please see Ghost Office's garden manual for a selection of prescriptions that can be used. For example, a small juniper grove could be especially nice or a grid of norfolk pine. Make the courtyard accessible from as many living spaces and bedrooms as possible, both for gardening and so that it can be used as living space. Therefore, many of the windows looking out onto the courtyard are doors. Ideally part of the garden should be shaded by a tree.
7. The entryway should not open directly into a view of the courtyard.
8. Either keep the walls unpainted, or use our custom Green-White paint which appears white but is revealed to be faintly green when compared to something white. The interior walls and the exterior walls should have the same color.
9. If the plot is constrained, or if you're building the house for a single person, you may instead use one small rectangle and then a very small pillar made from four vertical walls of glass which form a tiny courtyard and well of light somewhat off center. Include a section of sliding glass to allow for gardening, and obviously make sure that the roof does not cover the area contained by glass.
10. You may use skylights in bedrooms or bathrooms, but not in public areas.