



**Building Better Homes** educational program content is presented on one DVD-ROM covering four parts in depth:

- 1. What is a Better Built Home**
- 2. Building a Better Home**
- 3. Getting Started Building Better Homes**
- 4. Selling a Better Built Home**

### **Part 1: What is a Better Built Home** (40 min.)

A presentation of building science principles and physics behind a better built home, including interviews with successful home builders who have incorporated these principles into their construction systems and share why they would not build any other way. Sections cover:

- Challenges of Building Better Homes Today
- High Performance Homes: Green Building Science
- The Eight Rules of Building Performance
- Five Pairs of Glasses
- Builder Experiences-Interviews
- Summary
- Learn More

### **Part 2: Building a Better Home**

A guide to applying the principles described in Part 1 to each stage of the home building process, using real-life examples supported by construction details, installation, video, printable instructions and checklists.

#### **Section 1: The Building Site** (17 min.)

- Introduction
- Climate
- Drainage
- Solar Exposure
- Noise
- Seismic Conditions
- Soils
- Insects & Rodents
- Location & Sustainable Design
- Summary
- Learn More
- Checklist

#### **Section 2: The Foundation** (30 min.)

- Introduction
- Footings
- Slab on Grade

- Crawl Spaces
- Full Basements
- Foundation Walls
- Foundation Water Management
- Backfill & Grading
- Foundation Insulation
- Soil Gas Management
- Summary
- Learn More
- Checklist

#### **Section 3: The Subfloor System** (15 min.)

- Introduction
- Floor Joists
- Rim Joists
- Subflooring
- Ledgers
- Summary
- Learn More
- Checklist

#### **Section 4: The Exterior Wall System** (77 min.)

- Introduction
- Wall Structures
- Exterior Cladding
- Water Management
- Windows & Doors
- Wall Connections
- Sheathing
- Insulation
- Managing Air & Vapor Flow
- Interior Wall Materials
- Summary
- Learn More
- Checklist

#### **Section 5: The Roof** (31 min.)

- Introduction
- Roof Design
- Air Barrier
- Insulation
- Ventilation
- Sheathing
- Underlayment
- Flashing
- Roofing Material Types
- Skylights & Roof Penetrations
- Gutters & Downspouts
- Summary
- Learn More
- Checklist

### **Section 6: Mechanical Systems** (38 min.)

- Introduction
- Design
- Heating Systems
- Cooling Systems
- Ductwork
- Ventilation
- Indoor Air Filtration
- Managing Humidity
- Exhausting Appliances
- Summary
- Learn More
- Checklist

### **Section 7: Plumbing & Electrical** (17 min.)

- Introduction
- Plumbing
- Water Conservation
- Electrical
- Lighting
- Summary
- Learn More
- Checklist

### **Section 8: Finishes & Appliances** (15 min.)

- Introduction
- Wall Coverings
- Paints, Stains & Finishes
- Floor Coverings
- Cabinetry & Trim
- Appliances
- Summary
- Learn More
- Checklist

### **Section 9: Remodeling** (15 min.)

- Introduction
- Exterior Inventory
- Interior Inventory
- Exterior Recommendations
- Interior Recommendations
- Summary
- Learn More
- Checklist

### **Section 10: Turning Over the House** (7 min.)

- Introduction
- Homeowner Orientation
- Summary
- Learn More

### **Part 3: Getting Started Building Better Homes** (28 min.)

Provides builders with tips, insights and a process for transitioning their business and construction practices to building higher-performing and green homes. Includes interviews with successful builders who are integrating the approach into their businesses.

- Introduction
- The Builder's Experience: Making the Change
- Training & Education
- Help is There
- Construction Transition Process
- Organizational Transition Process
- Summary
- Learn More

### **Part 4: Selling a Better Built Home** (36 min.)

Provides ideas/suggestions for marketing higher performing & green homes, including examples of sales literature, checklists, and video of tips and advice from builders and a realtor building higher performing, energy efficient homes.

- Introduction
- Marketing
- Training & Education
- Sales Tools
- Branding
- Affiliations
- Summary
- Learn More
- Checklist

The DVD-ROM also includes navigation tips and instructions for using the program, including Troubleshooting and Support sections.

### **System Requirements:**

#### **Windows®:**

- Microsoft Windows 2000, XP or Vista
- Intel Pentium® 3 (or faster)
- 512MB RAM (1GB RAM recommended)
- DVD-ROM drive
- Screen resolution of 1024 x 768 or higher
- Internet connection
- QuickTime® 7.0 (installer included on disc)
- Adobe® Reader® 8.0 or later

#### **Apple®:**

- Mac OSX® (any version)
- PowerPC G3 or faster
- 512MB RAM (1GB RAM recommended)
- DVD-ROM drive
- Screen resolution of 1024 x 768 or higher
- Internet connection
- QuickTime® 7.0 (installer included on disc)
- Preview 4.0 or later or Adobe Reader® 8.0 or later

Total estimated program runtime: 6hrs. Please note that the runtimes provided may vary depending upon your hardware and software configuration. They include time for brief review of Learn Mores, Summaries & Checklists.

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