

**MO**  
THE WOOD COMMUNITY  
**KU**  
**KAI.**

GIDEON DE GRAAF  
ARCHITECTURAL ENGINEERING  
GRADUATION STUDIO P5

WORKSHOP  
HOUSING  
STUDIOS  
CAFE

**SELFBUILDING**  
**~~NO~~ STUDENT HOUSING**  
**ON TU DELFT CAMPUS**  
**~~NINE TO~~ PAST FIVE ALIVE**

**COMING 2025**

## MOKUKAI

Empowering students to build a community through self-build architecture

01

Project proposal

02

Research

03

Technical

04

Design

05

Phasing

06

Recap

# PROJECT PROPOSAL

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KU  
KAI.





# PROJECT NAME



MO  
KU  
KAI.

**Mokukai** (*Japanese*)

*"The Wood Community"*

Community building through participating  
in selfbuilding architecture and the built  
environment

# MOTIVATION

## WHY?

### 01 Housing shortage

Housing shortage among students.  
Currently a shortage of ca. 2400  
rooms.

31500 students attend the TU Delft

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**De TU Delft wil de komst van het aantal studenten niet langer beperken, maar juist fors laten groeien. Wat de universiteit betreft moeten er straks niet jaarlijks 28.000 maar 40.000 studenten tot ingenieur worden opgeleid.**

Theresia Schouten 18-09-22, 07:00

# MOTIVATION

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PROBLEM



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#### 02 TU Delft Campus

27000 daily visitors

TU Delft's nine to five working ethic leads to a deserted campus after hours. Contradicting their own vision.

# PROJECT OBJECTIVE

*Provide students with housing while simultaneously create more social interaction, initiating the transformation from business district to an urban living environment.*



### ***Why Self-Building?***

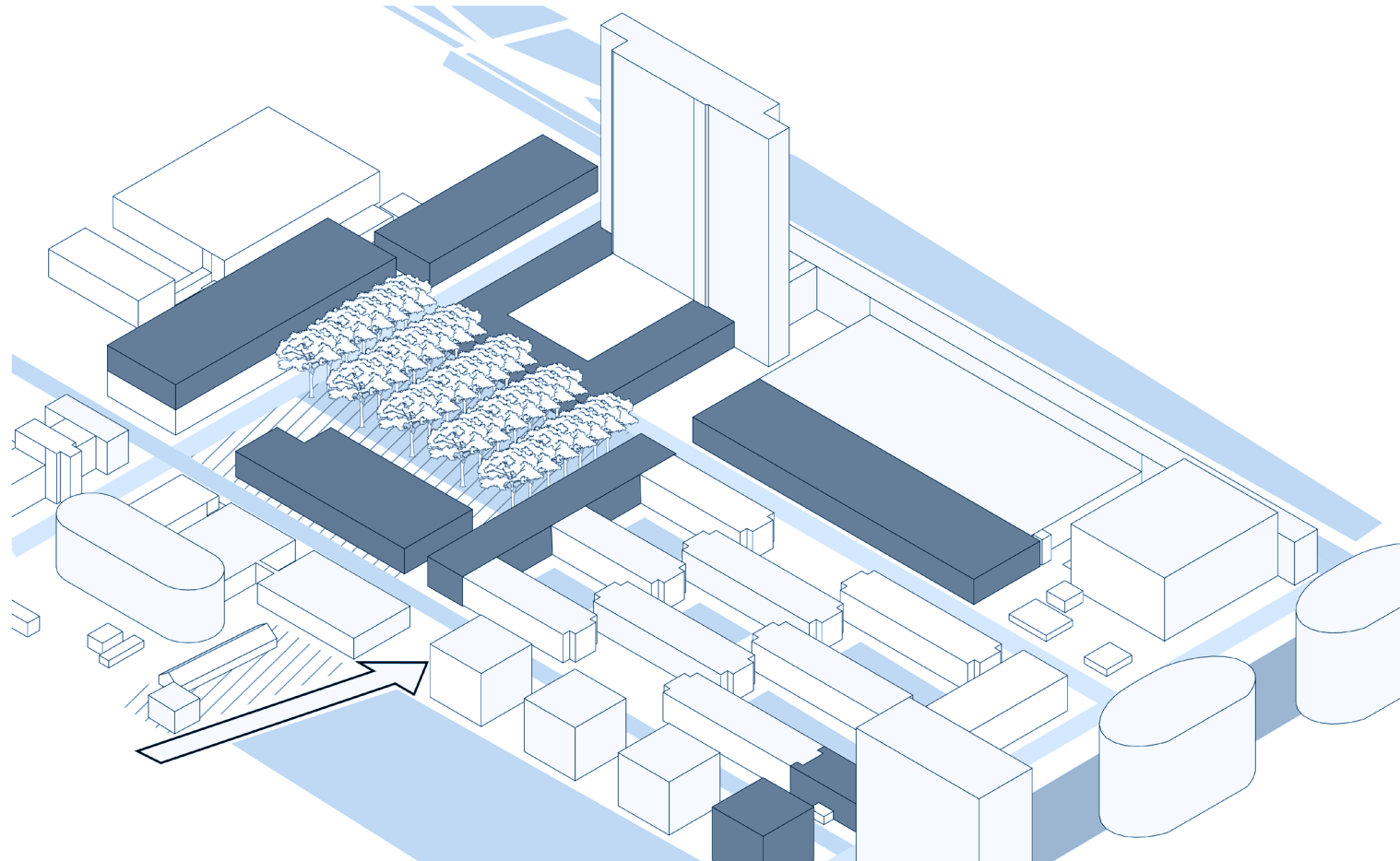
Solution for both problems

- I      Empowering students to take matters into their own hands
- II     Stimulate sense of community, by active involvement

# LOCATION

## TU DELFT CAMPUS MIDDEN

MO  
KU  
KAI.



*But how do you design for selfbuilding?*

01

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# RESEARCH OBJECTIVE

**Determine what it means to design for self-building**

*What is required from a timber building system to have students built their own housing?*

# TOOL DEVELOPMENT CRITERIA

## Criteria for DfSB

1. Required operator skills
2. Tool complexity / weight / dimension / ability to grip
3. Workspace accessibility
4. Number of component types
5. Connector integration / support integration
6. Number of fastener types
7. Connection type
8. Fragility
9. Number of components
10. Number of fasteners

# TOOL DEVELOPMENT

## PAIRWISE CRITERIA CHART

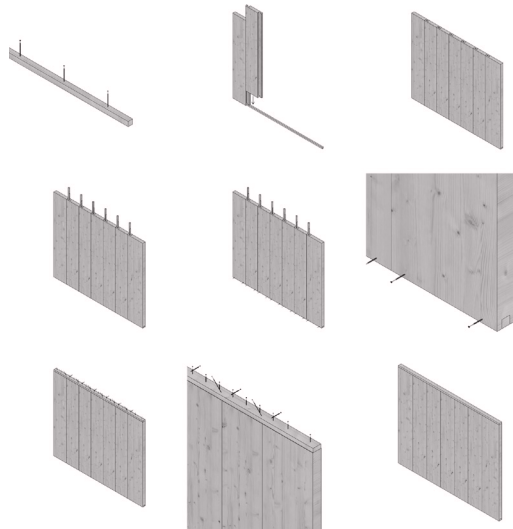
	Workspace accessibility	Tool complexity	Required operator skill	Ability to grip	Weight	Dimensions	Connector integration	Support integration	Number of components	Number of component types	Number of fasteners	Number of fastener types	Connection type	Fragility	Rating	%
Workspace accessibility		1/2	1/3	1/2	1/2	1/2	3	3	7	1/2	8	4	5	6	<b>38,8</b>	9,05
Tool complexity	2		1/2	1	1	1	4	4	8	3	9	5	6	7	<b>51,5</b>	12,02
Required operator skill	3	2		2	2	2	5	5	9	4	9	6	7	8	<b>64</b>	14,93
Ability to grip	2	1	1/2		1	1	4	4	8	3	9	5	6	7	<b>51,5</b>	12,02
Weight	2	1	1/2	1		1	4	4	8	3	9	5	6	7	<b>51,5</b>	12,02
Dimensions	2	1	1/2	1	1		4	4	8	3	9	5	6	7	<b>51,5</b>	12,02
Connector integration	1/3	1/4	1/5	1/4	1/4	1/4		1	5	1/2	6	2	3	4	<b>23</b>	5,37
Support integration	1/3	1/4	1/5	1/4	1/4	1/4	1		5	1/2	6	2	3	4	<b>23</b>	5,37
Number of components	1/7	1/8	1/9	1/8	1/8	1/8	1/3	1/3		1/6	2	1/4	1/3	1/2	<b>4,7</b>	1,10
Number of component types	1/2	1/3	1/4	1/3	1/3	1/3	2	2	6		7	3	4	5	<b>31,1</b>	7,26
Number of fasteners	1/8	1/9	1/9	1/9	1/9	1/9	1/4	1/4	1/2	1/7		1/5	1/4	1/3	<b>2,6</b>	0,61
Number of fastener types	1/4	1/5	1/6	1/5	1/5	1/5	1/2	1/2	4	1/3	5		2	3	<b>16,6</b>	3,87
Connection type	1/5	1/6	1/7	1/6	1/6	1/6	1/3	1/3	3	1/4	4	1/2		2	<b>11,4</b>	2,66
Fragility	1/6	1/7	1/8	1/7	1/7	1/7	1/4	1/4	2	1/5	3	1/3	1/2		<b>7,40</b>	1,73



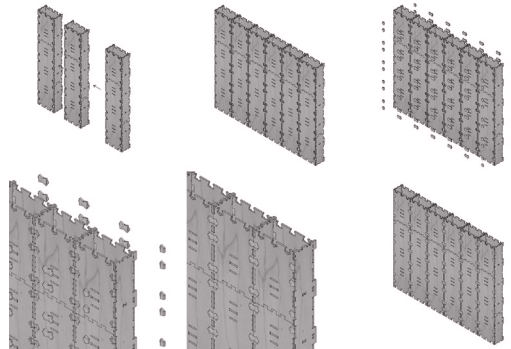
*The evaluation tool is ready*  
But does it work?

# VALIDATION

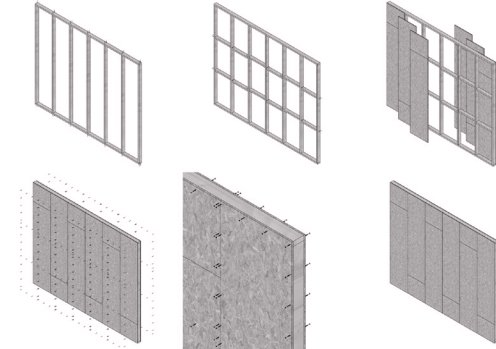
## CASESTUDIES



KLIK-KLIK™ WALL by CLT Factory



Skylark 250 by WikiHouse

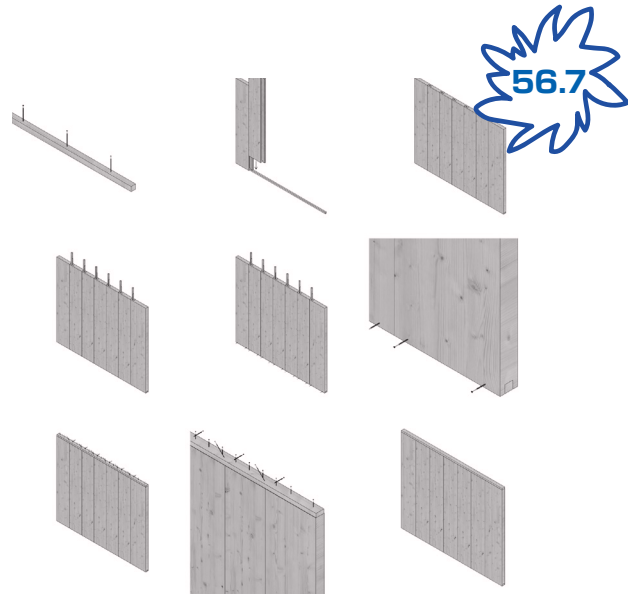


Conventional timber frame construction

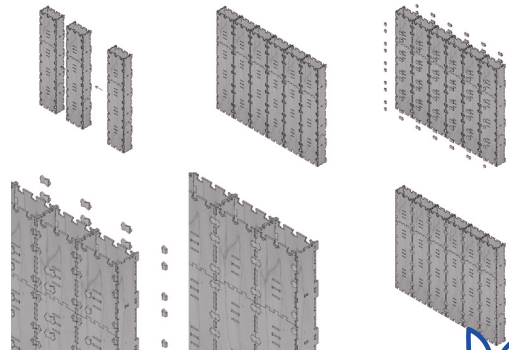
# VALIDATION

## CASESTUDIES

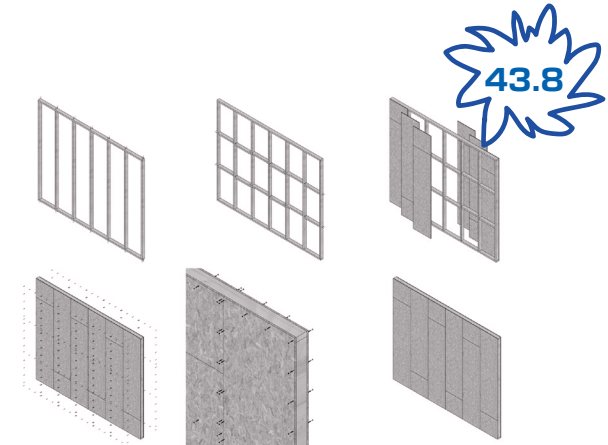
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KAI.



KLIK-KLIK™ WALL by CLT Factory



Skylark 250 by WikiHouse



Conventional timber frame construction

# FINDINGS

- I **Ease of Assembly:** The system should be designed with minimal complexity. This includes clear steps, pre-fabricated components and simple connection mechanisms.
- II **Lightweight and manageable components:** The components should be lightweight and easy to handle, ensuring that individual components can be moved and assembled by one or two people without specialised equipment
- III **Minimal tool requirements:** The system should require none or only basic, easy accessible tools, reducing the need for specialised skills or equipment.
- IV **Safety and stability:** The system must ensure structural integrity and safety, even when assembled by non-professional builders, to prevent accidents and ensure long-term durability.

# FINDINGS

## *Why was this useful?*

- I Guidelines for Design for Self-Building
- II A tool to test building systems on their ability to self-build

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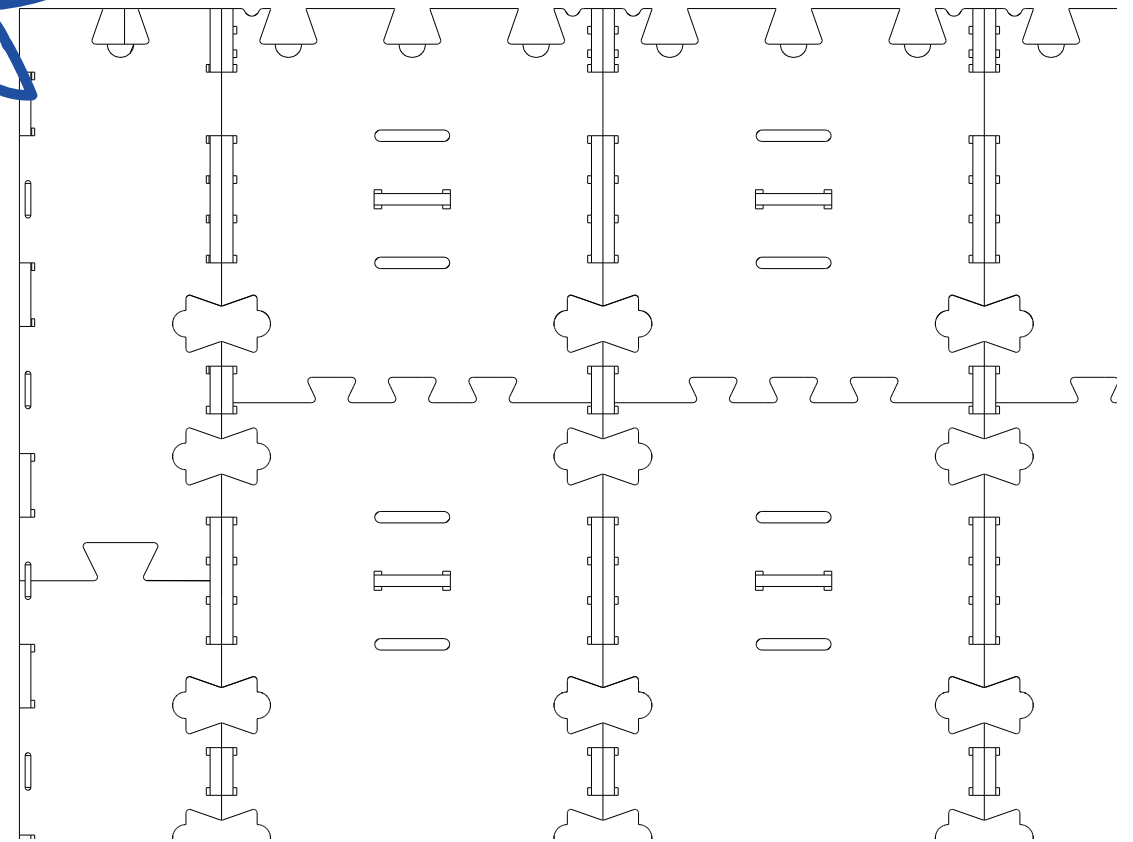
# WIKIHOUSE

MO  
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KAI.

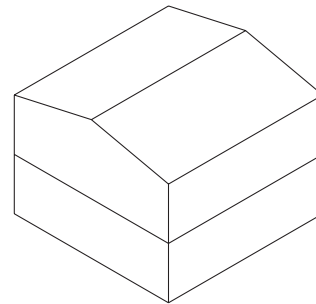
77.8

Wikihouse is a open source building system that uses cnc-milled sheet material to create building elements.

These elements are assembled with nails or screws and fastened together with bowties.

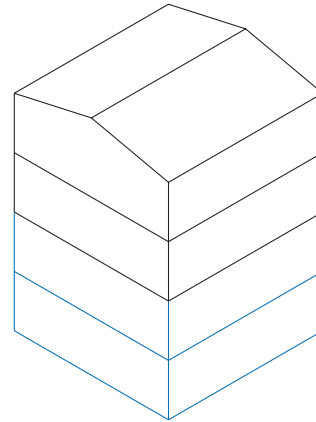






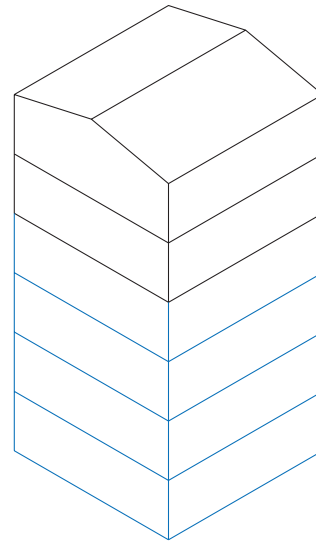
WIKIHOUSE IS DESIGNED  
FOR SINGLE DWELLINGS  
UP TO TWO STOREYS

# ISSUE



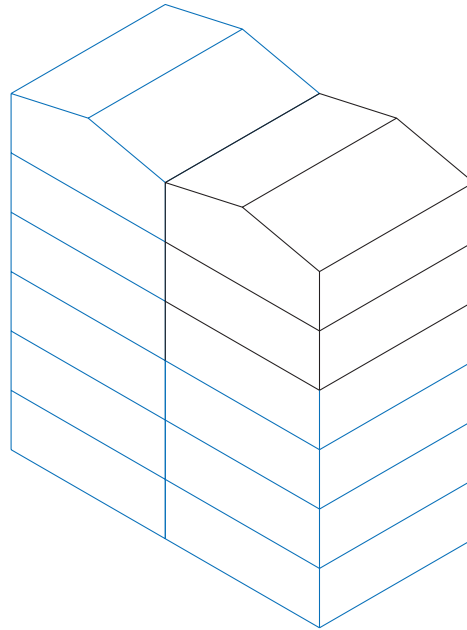
MULTIPLE  
~~TWO~~ STOREYS

# ISSUE



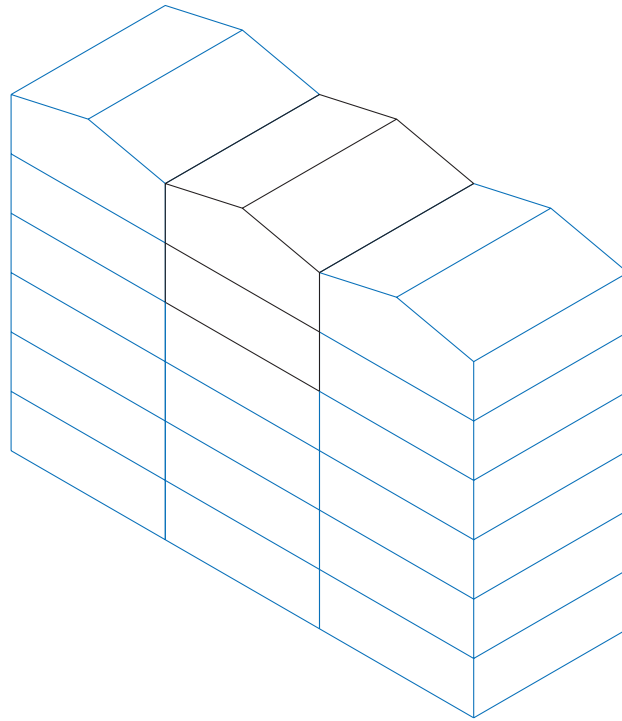
MULTIPLE  
~~TWO~~ STOREYS

# ISSUE



MULTIPLE  
~~TWO~~ STOREYS

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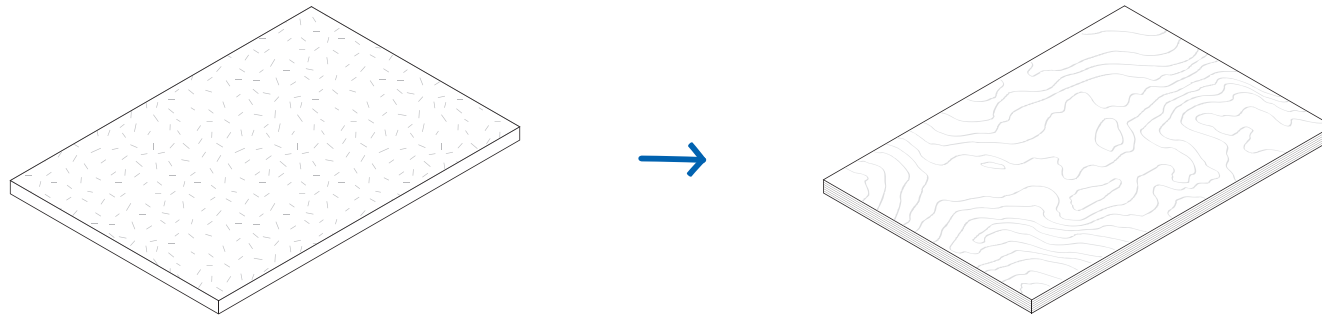


MULTIPLE  
~~TWO~~ STOREYS

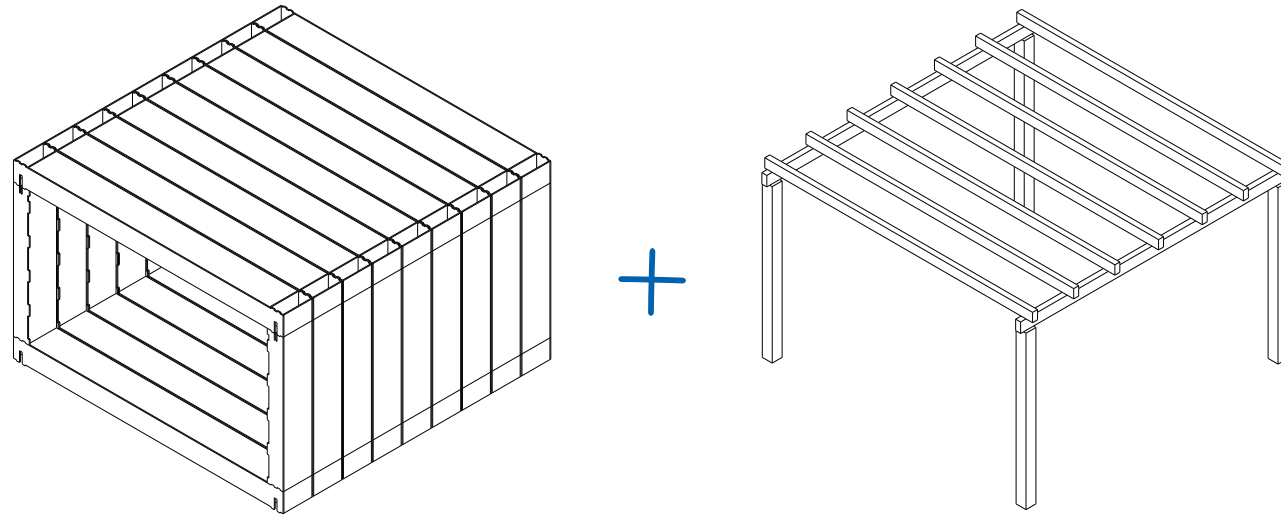
# ISSUE

*It needs reinforcement!*

The first step is to switch from OSB (oriented strand board) to birch plywood.

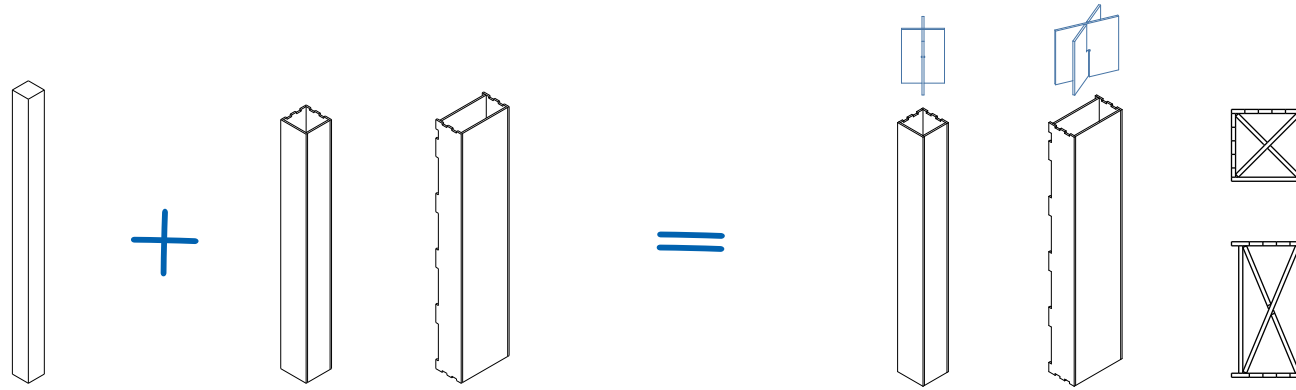


The second step was comparing the system to traditional ways of timber construction

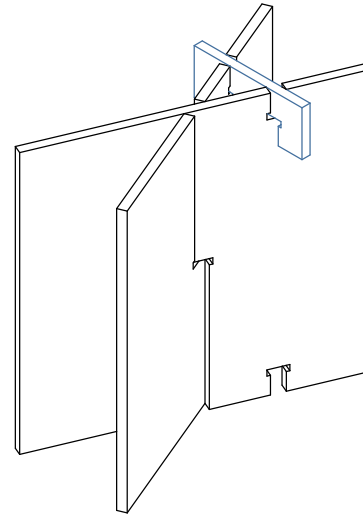
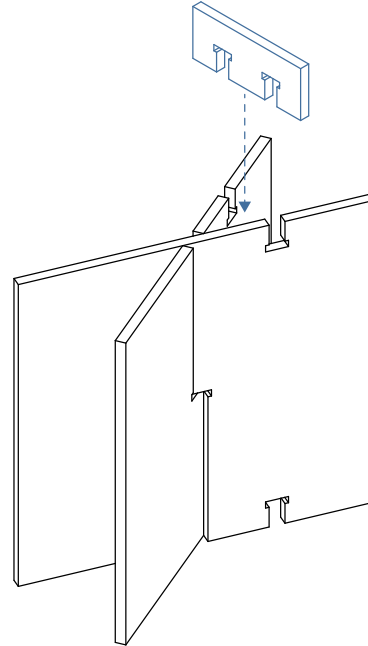




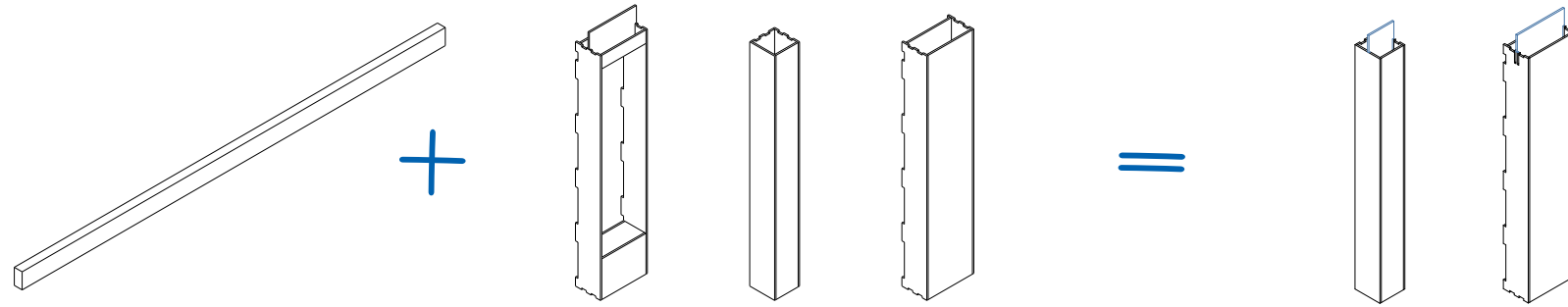
Corner and wall elements have been beefed up with cross members to resemble a solid wooded column.



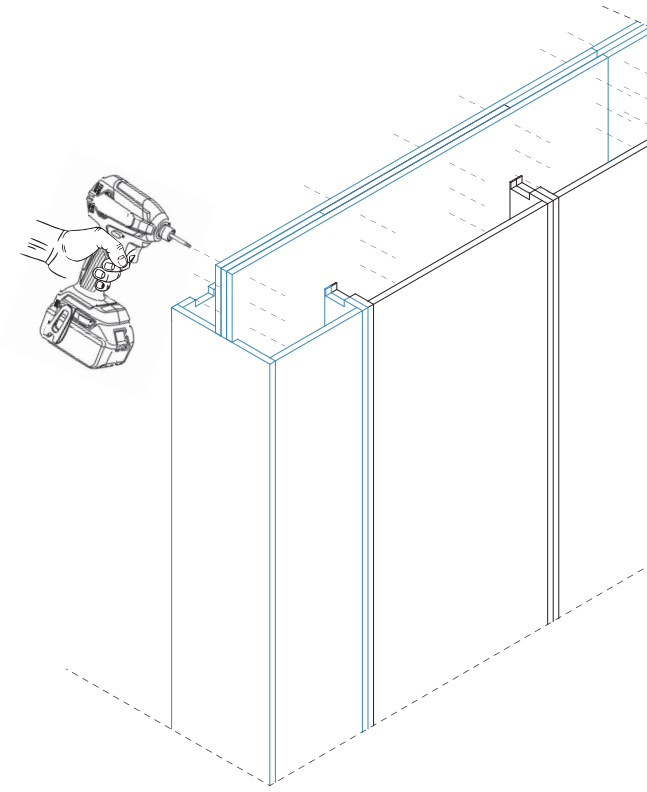
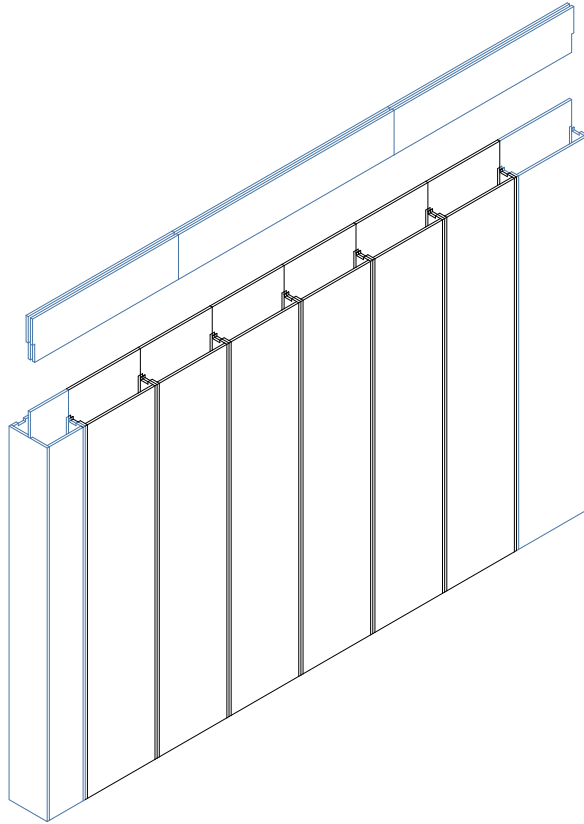
The cross members are made from the same plywood and are milled on the cnc. Two pieces slot together and a third one locks them in place.



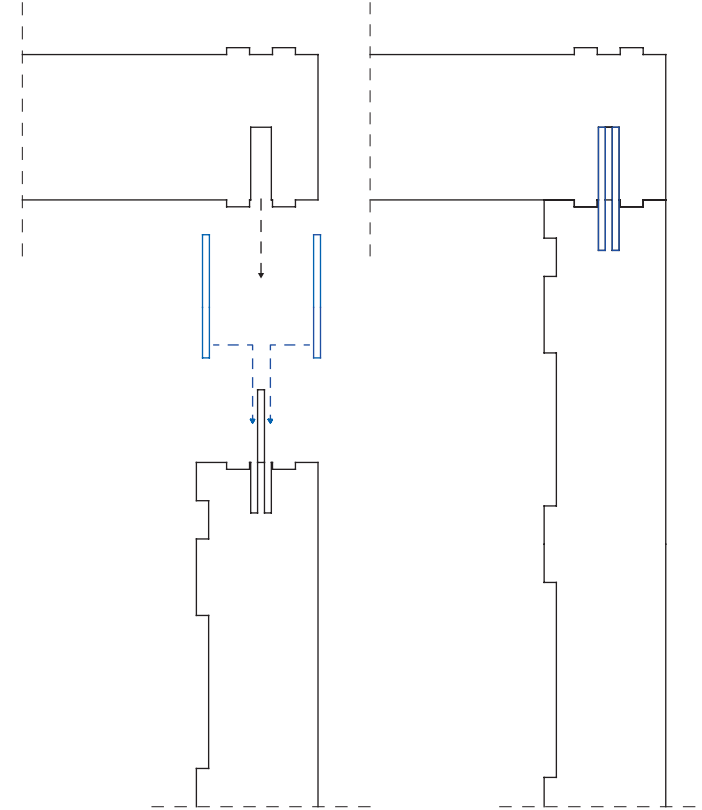
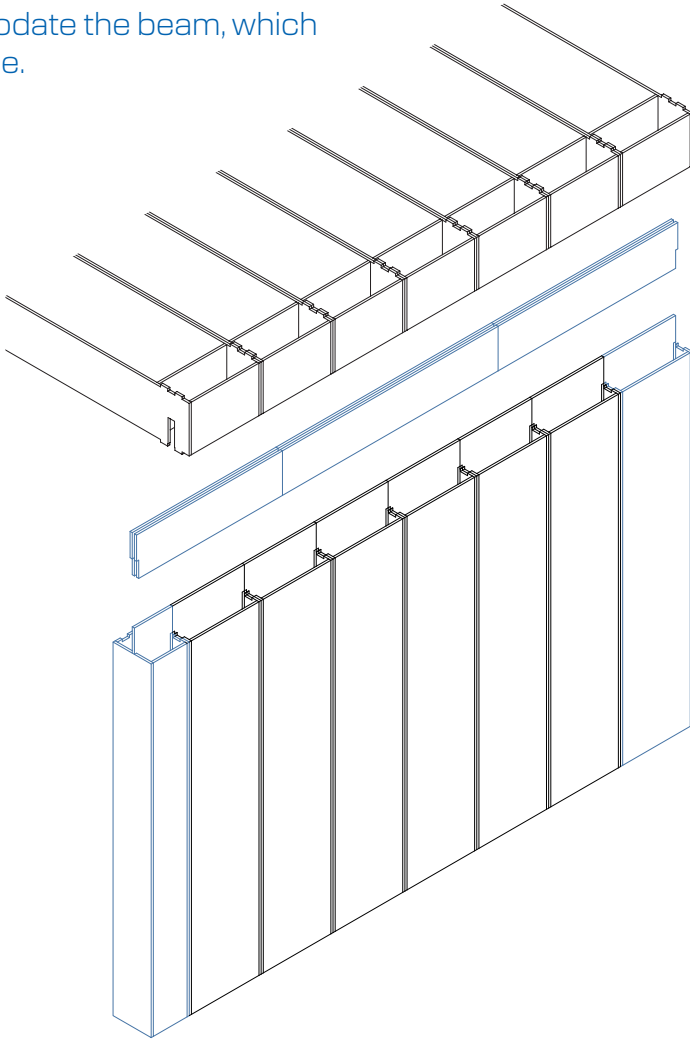
The final step has been the introduction of a beam within the system.



The lintels get sandwiched between to longer pieces of plywood and create a beam between reinforced elements.



Eventually the floor elements have a slot to accommodate the beam, which locks it into place.



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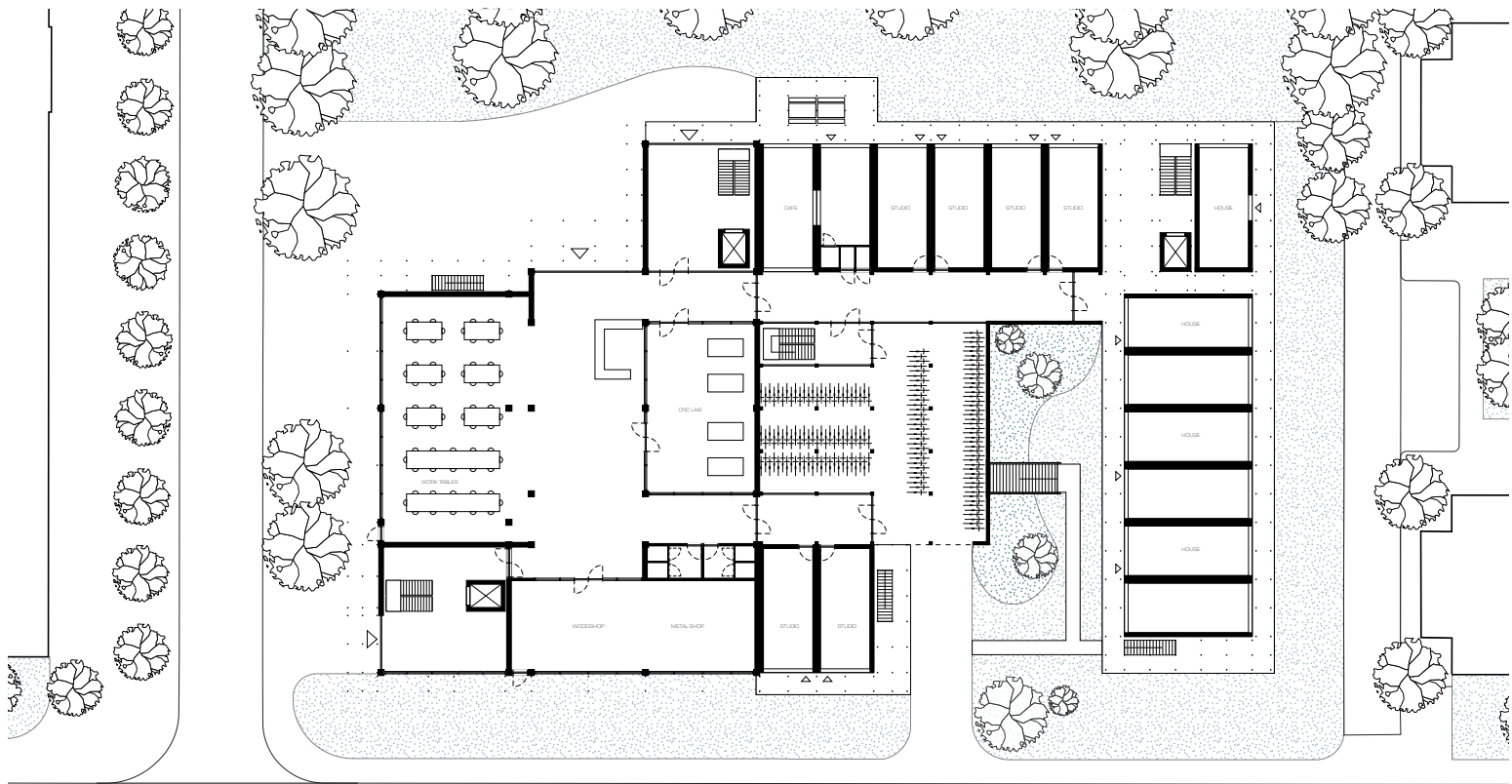
Design

05

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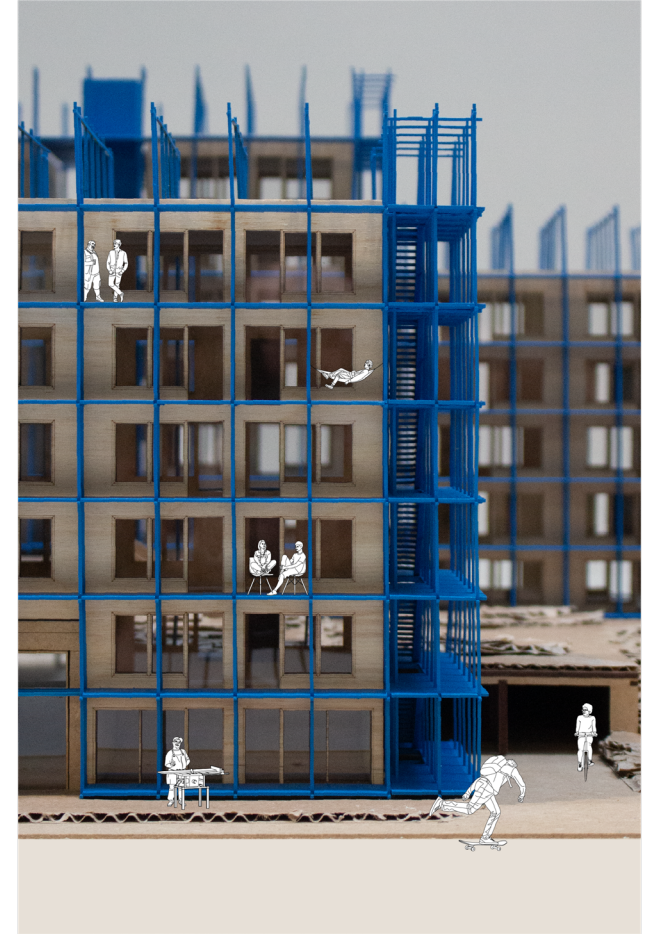


# MAKERSPACE





# WORK STUDIOS



# CAFE COFFEE'S NEW LOCATION

Architectural Engineering P5



*Now let's build a house*

# HOUSING

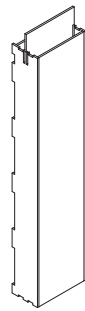
## WHAT CAN YOU BUILD?

# CATALOG



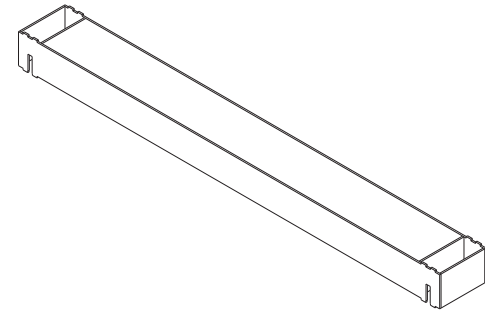
*NEW\**

COLUMN  
l: 318, w: 318, h: 2700



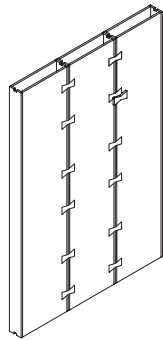
*NEW\**

WALL  
l: 600, w: 318, h: 2700

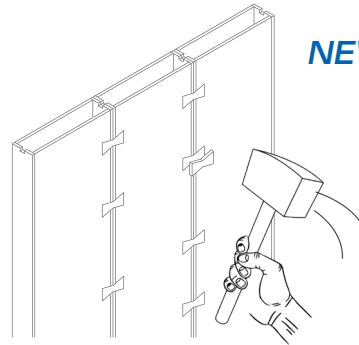


FLOOR  
l: 4836, w: 600, h: 380

## CATALOG

**NEW\***

INTERNAL WALL  
l: 600, w: 150, h: 2700

**NEW\***

Wikihouse is designed only as the outer shell of the house. Therefore internal walls still rely on traditional carpentry to be put up.

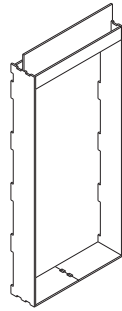
That's where this adapted version comes into play. It uses the same development process and installation as the outer shell.

Just a slimmer version

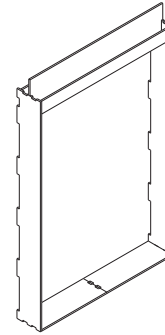
# CATALOG



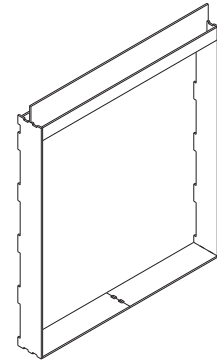
WINDOW SMALL 1  
l: 600, w: 318, h: 2700



WINDOW MEDIUM 1  
l: 1200, w: 318, h: 2700



WINDOW LARGE 1  
l: 1800, w: 318, h: 2700



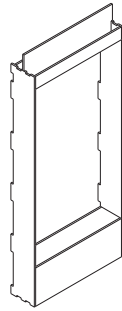
WINDOW XLARGE 1  
l: 2400, w: 318, h: 2700

**NEW\***

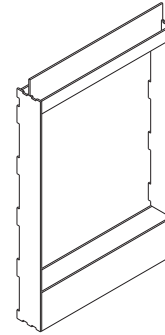
# CATALOG



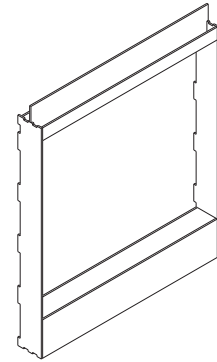
WINDOW SMALL 2  
l: 600, w: 318, h: 2700



WINDOW MEDIUM 2  
l: 1200, w: 318, h: 2700



WINDOW LARGE 2  
l: 1800, w: 318, h: 2700

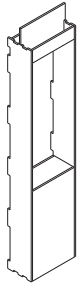


WINDOW XLARGE 2  
l: 2400, w: 318, h: 2700

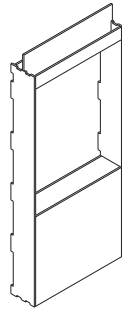
**NEW\***



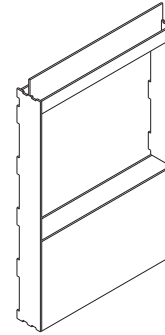
# CATALOG



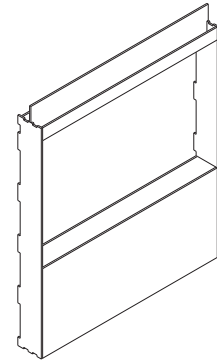
WINDOW SMALL 3  
l: 600, w: 318, h: 2700



WINDOW MEDIUM 3  
l: 1200, w: 318, h: 2700



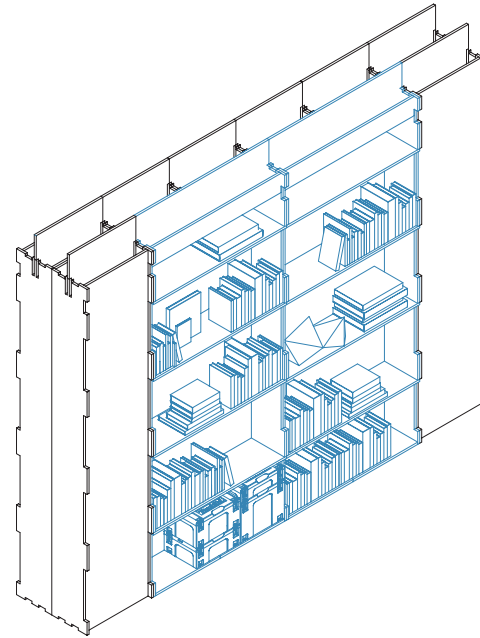
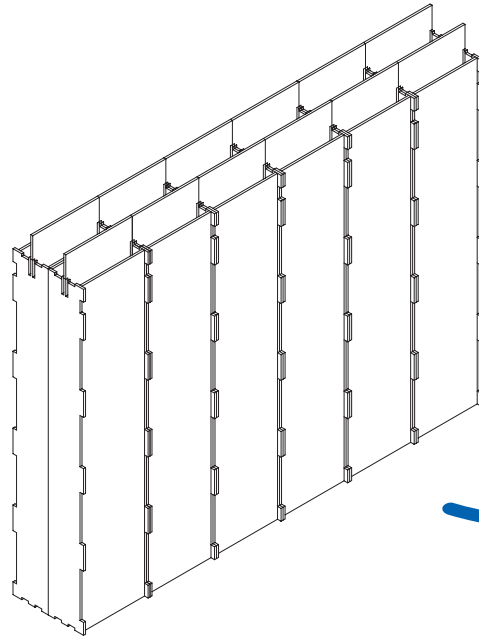
WINDOW LARGE 3  
l: 1800, w: 318, h: 2700



WINDOW XLARGE 3  
l: 2400, w: 318, h: 2700

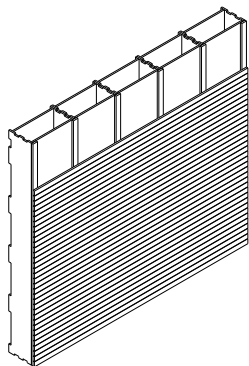
**NEW\***

# CATALOG

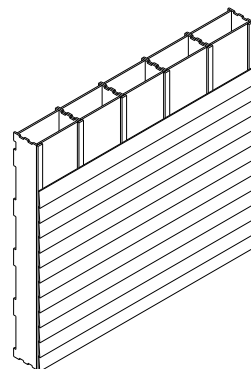


NEW\*

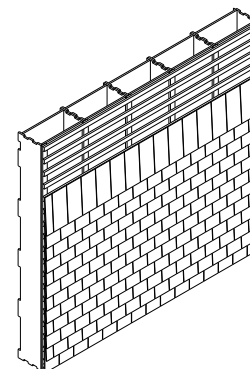
# CATALOG



CLICKWOOD  
Horizontal or vertical slats

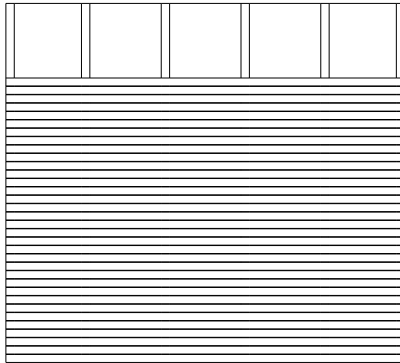


SWEDISH RABAT  
Horizontal boards

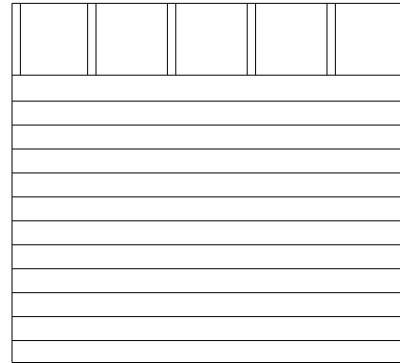


SHINGLES  
Wooden 'tiles'

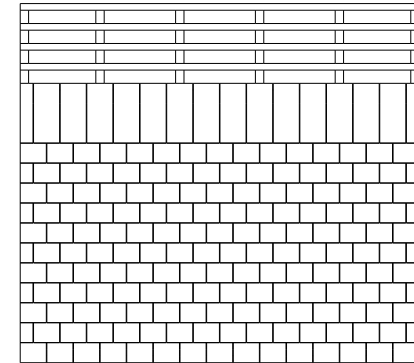
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CLICKWOOD  
Horizontal or vertical slats



SWEDISH RABAT  
Horizontal boards

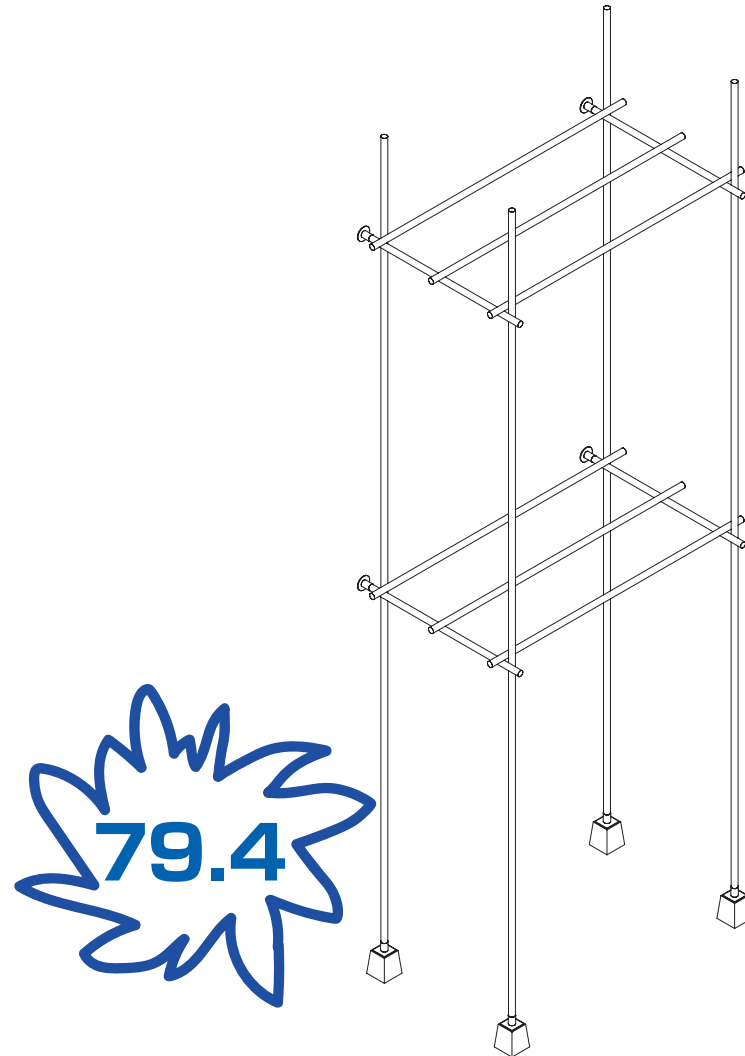


SHINGLES  
Wooden 'tiles'

Douglas fir

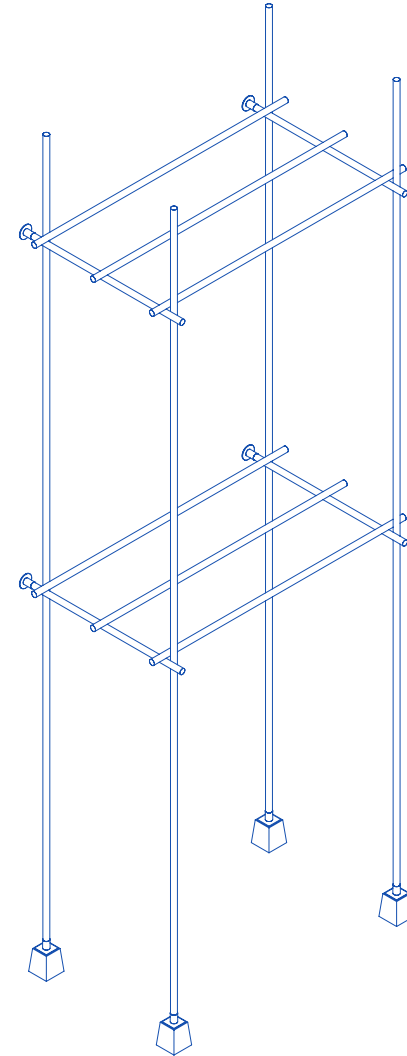
# SCAFFOLDING

MO  
KU  
KAI.



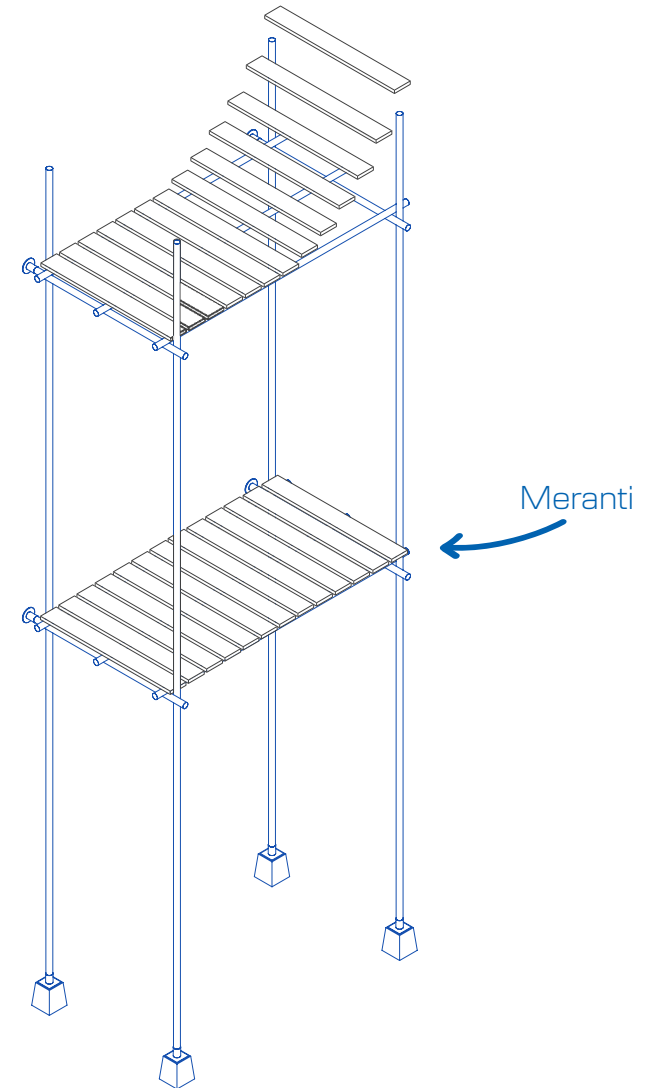
# SCAFFOLDING

MO  
KU  
KAI.



# SCAFFOLDING

MO  
KU  
KAI.

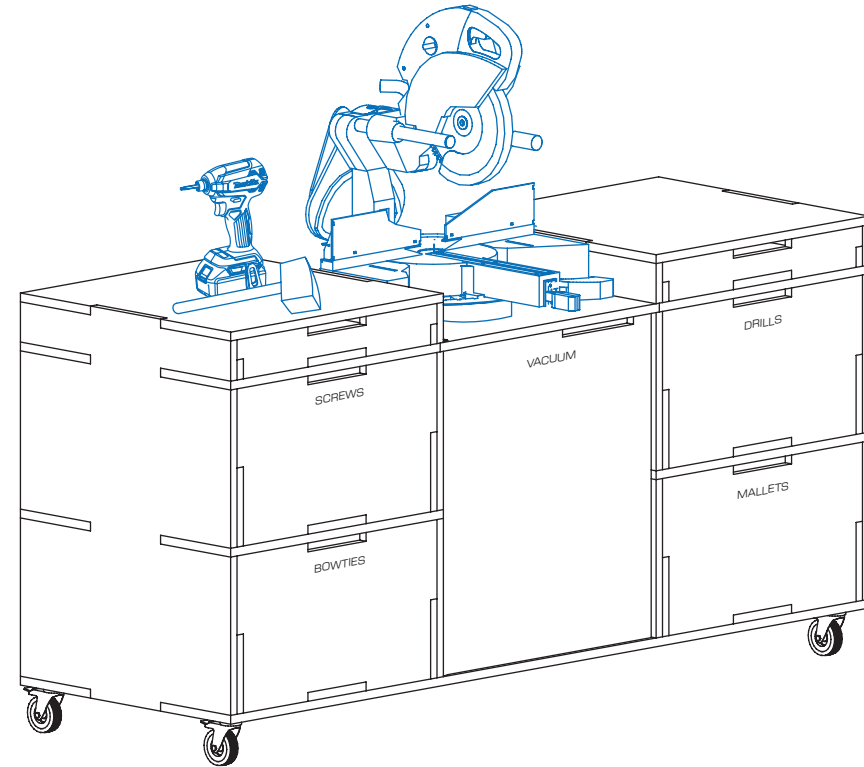


# TOOLS



After the CNC-machine has milled the birch plywood into the right dimensions, the assembly of the building elements can start.

For assembly several tools are required. Therefore students can take one of these tool carts up to their building site.

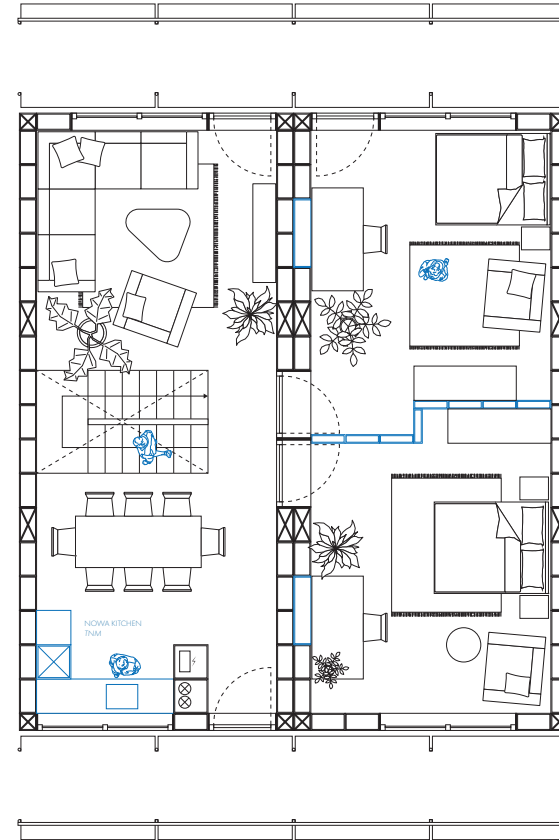
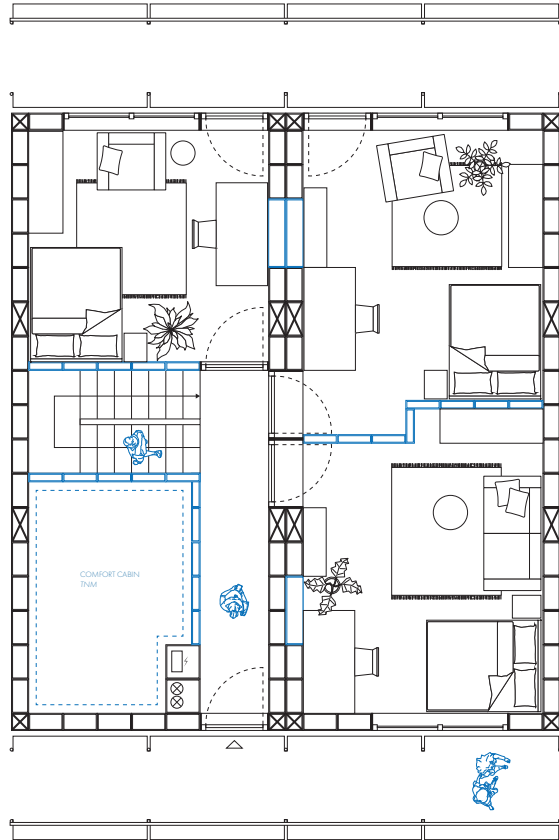




# FLOORPLANS

## SUGGESTIONS

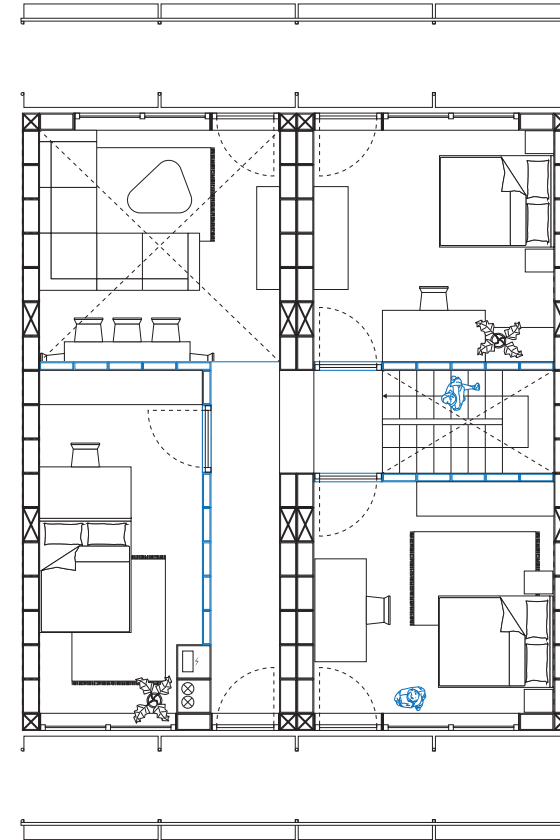
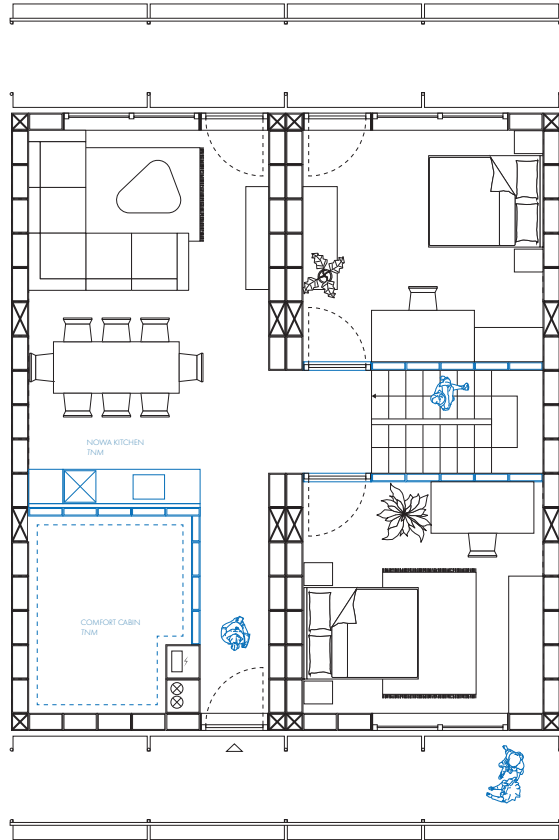
5 person  
maisonette



# FLOORPLANS

## SUGGESTIONS

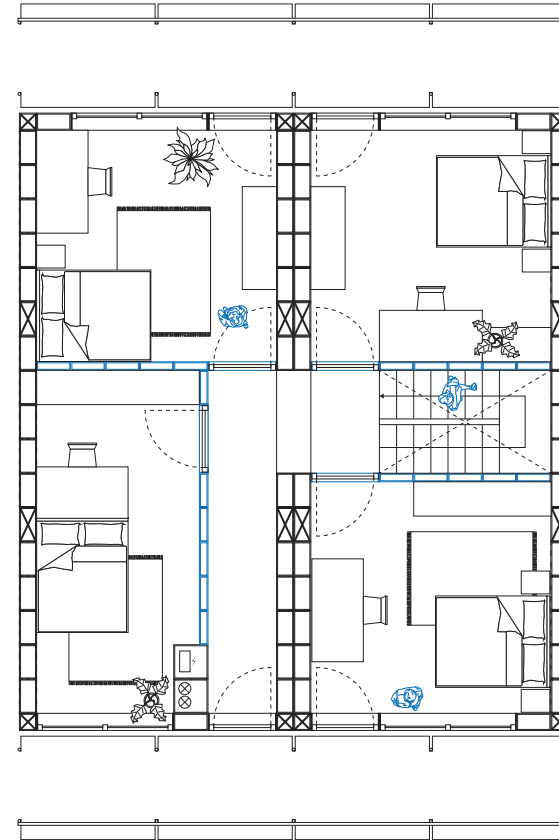
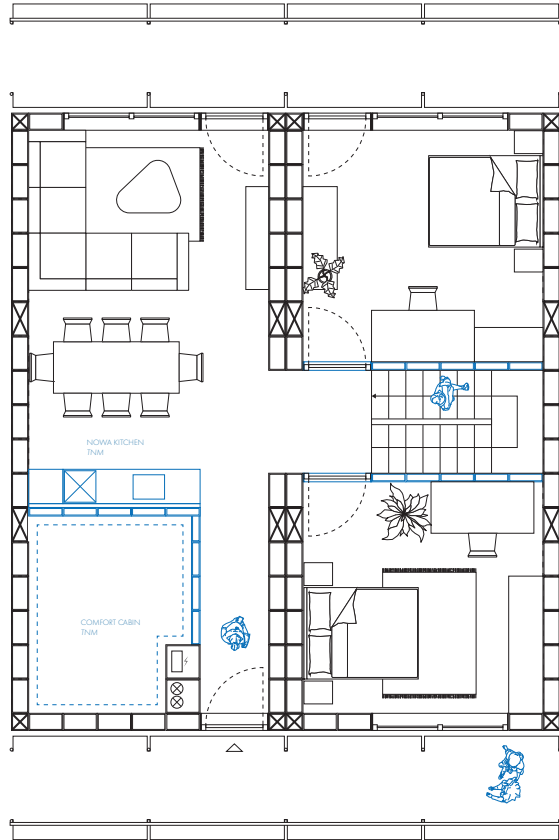
5 person  
maisonette with  
entresol



# FLOORPLANS

## SUGGESTIONS

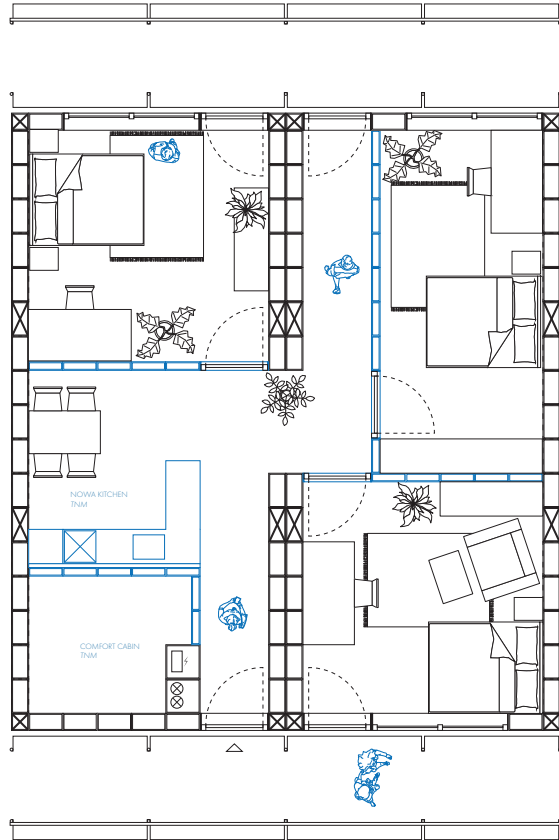
6 person  
maisonette



# FLOORPLANS

## SUGGESTIONS

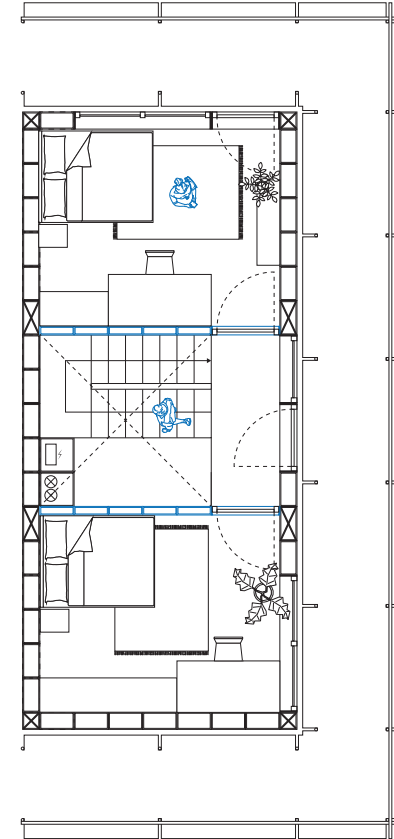
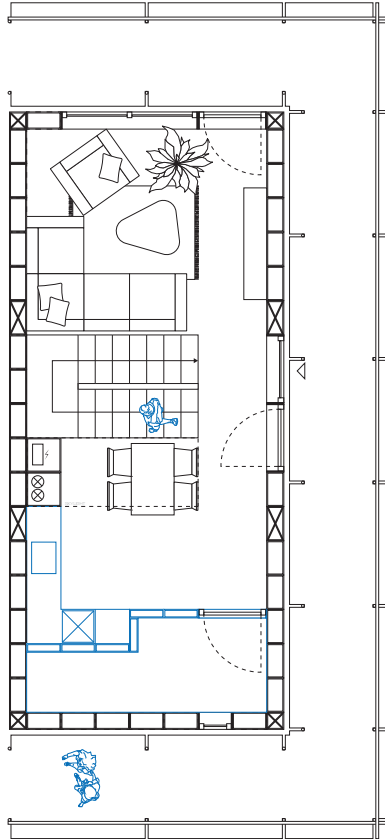
3 person  
single floor



# FLOORPLANS

## SUGGESTIONS

2 person  
maisonette



**Kees**

25 yrs  
Mechanical Engineering  
Industrial Design

**Jonne**

24 yrs  
Architecture  
Urbanism

**Lotte**

24 yrs  
Industrial Design  
Geo design

**Micha**

26 yrs  
Policy Analysis

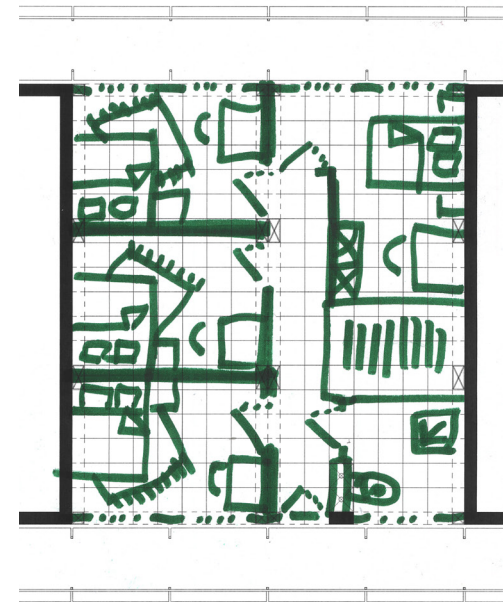
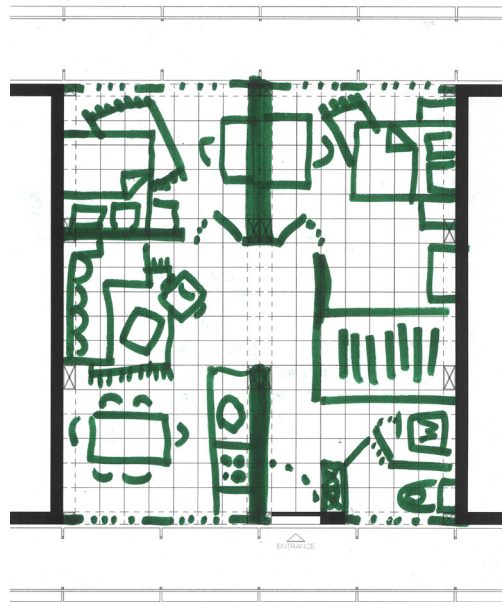
**MO  
KU  
KAI.**

# EXPERIMENT

Kees

25 yrs  
Mechanical Engineering  
Industrial Design

MO  
KU  
KAI.



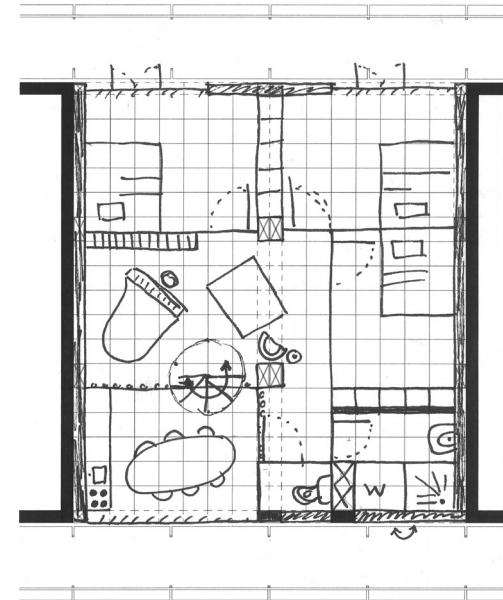
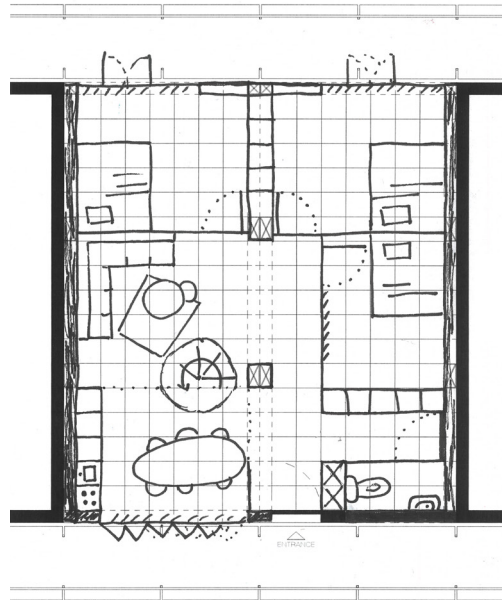
Large rooms. Bathroom  
next to utility chute. No  
structural issues

One room without direct  
sunlight

Jonne

24 yrs  
Architecture  
Urbanism

MO  
KU  
KAI.



Spiral staircase. Bathroom as close as possible to utility chute

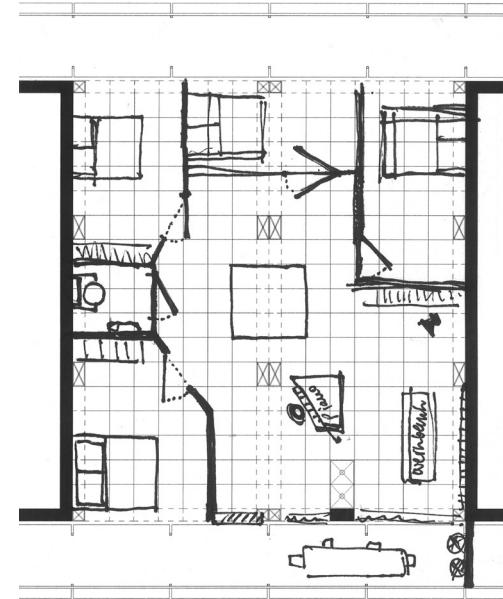
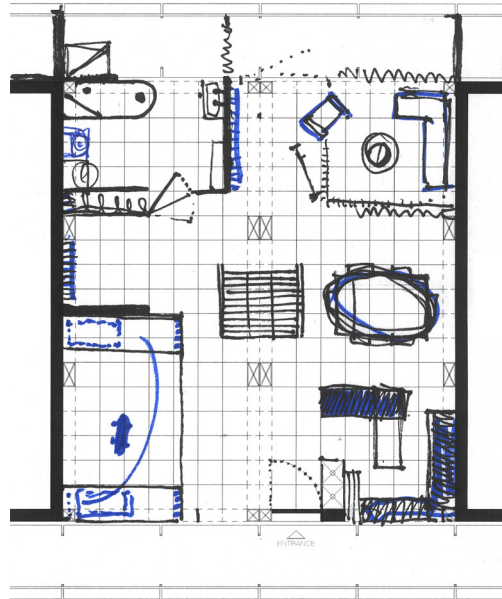
Two rooms without direct sunlight. some structural issues



## Lotte

24 yrs  
Industrial Design  
Geo design

MO  
KU  
KAI.



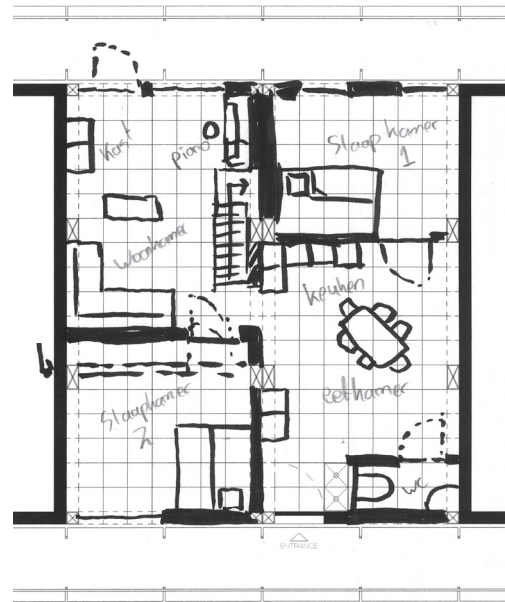
Moving walls. Foldable glass wall. Connecting inside with outside. Outdoor shower.

Bathroom as far away from utility chute as possible. A lot of structural issues

Micha

26 yrs  
Policy Analysis

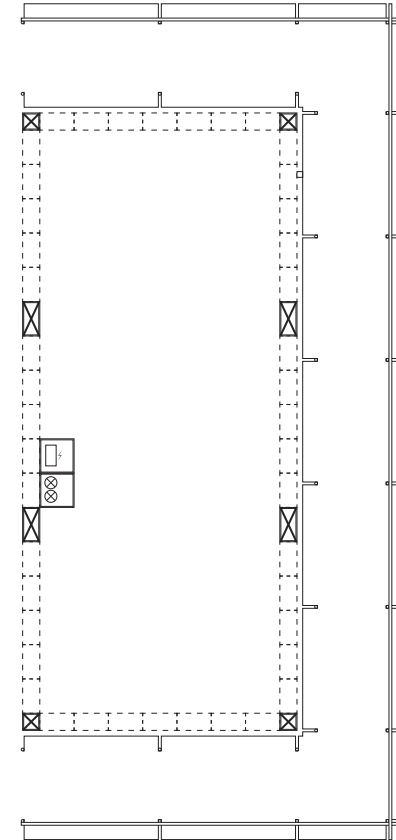
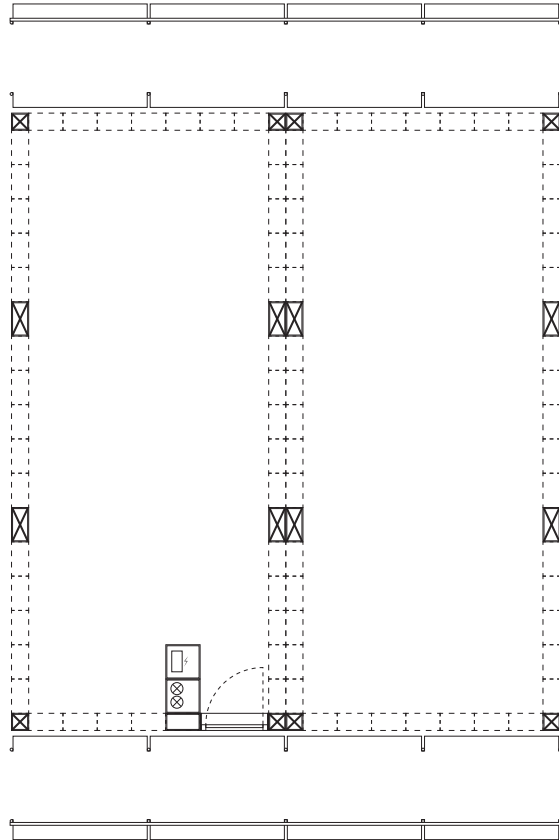
MO  
KU  
KAI.



Pushed back facade to  
create a bigger balcony.

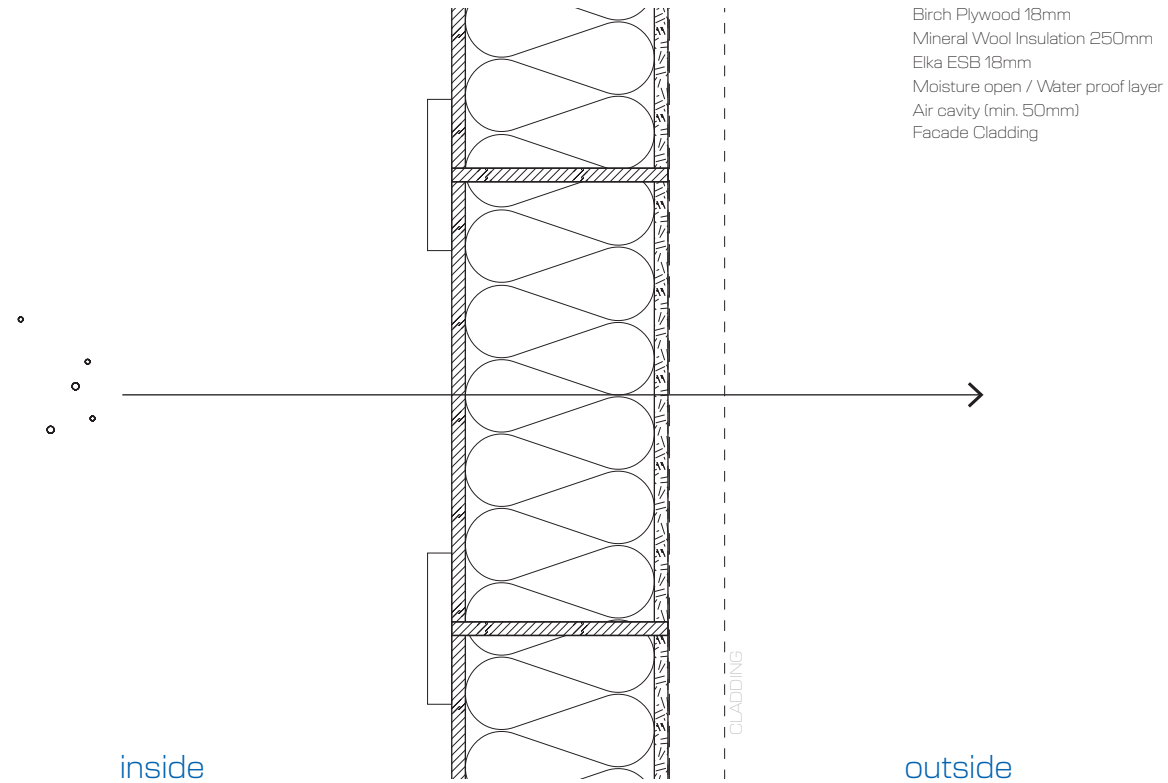
One room without direct  
sun of daylight. A lot of  
structural issues

# NON DEBATABLE STRUCTURAL

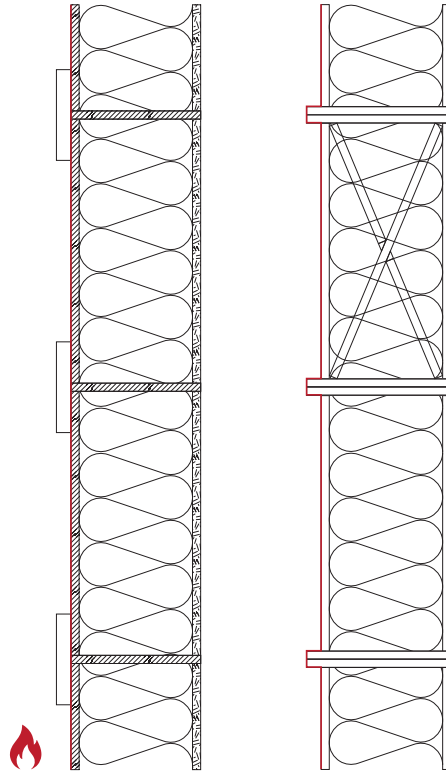


# NON DEBATABLE MOISTURE OPEN

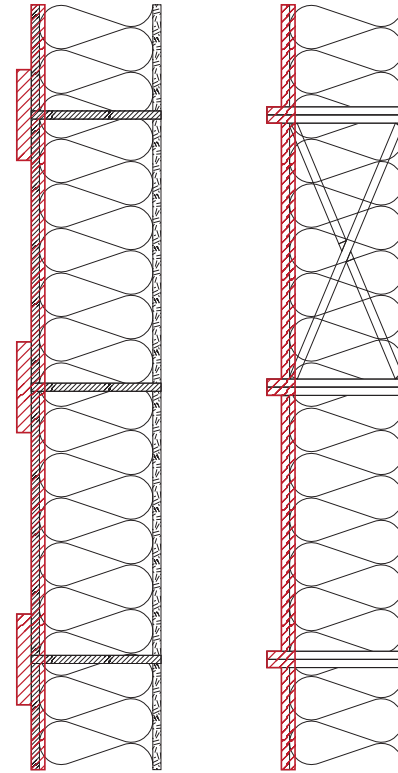
MO  
KU  
KAI.



# NON DEBATABLE SAFETY

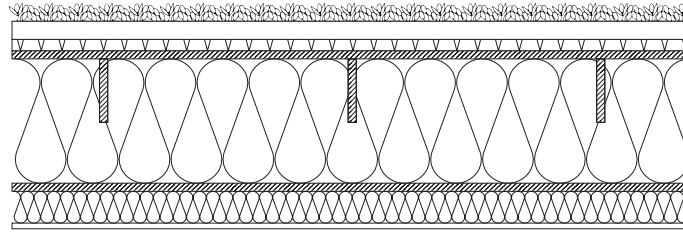


Fire (start 0 min.)

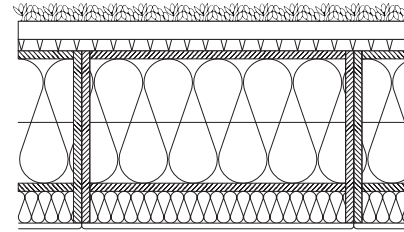


Fire (30 min., 1mm/min)

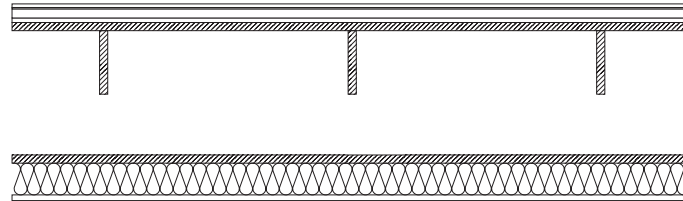
# NON DEBATABLE SAFETY



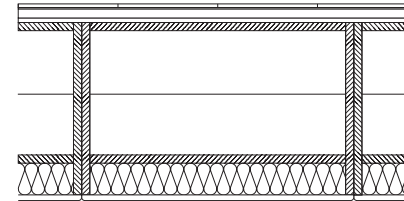
Roof



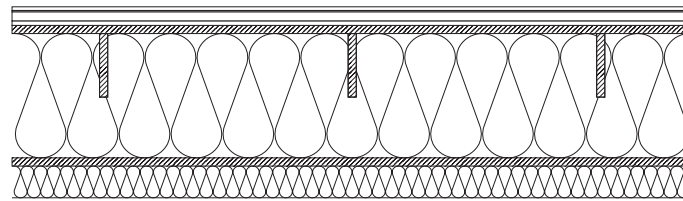
Vegetation 20-40mm  
Substrate Layer 40mm  
Drainage Layer 25mm  
Waterproofing  
Birch Plywood 18mm  
Mineral Wool Insulation 274mm  
Birch Plywood 18mm  
Mineral Wool Insulation 70mm  
Moistureproofing  
Gibson Board 12.5mm



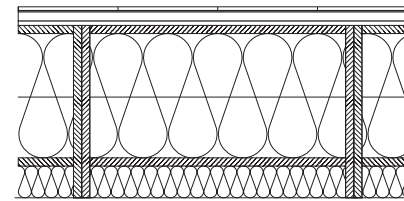
Floors



Laminate Flooring MDF  
Isoline Eco 3mm  
Fermacell 2E32  
Birch Plywood 18mm  
Birch Plywood 18mm  
Mineral Wool Insulation 70mm  
Gibson Board 12.5mm

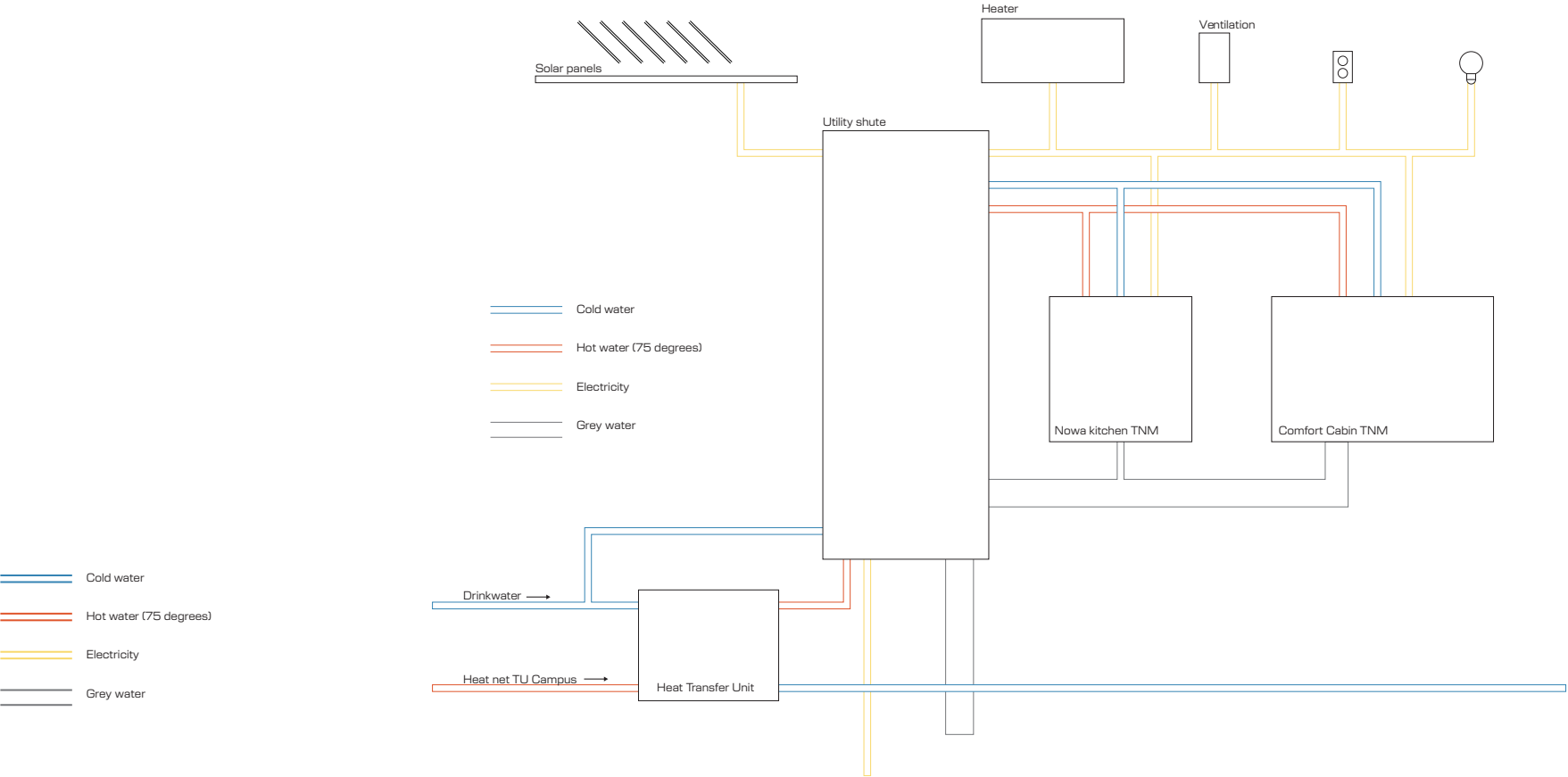


Ground Floor



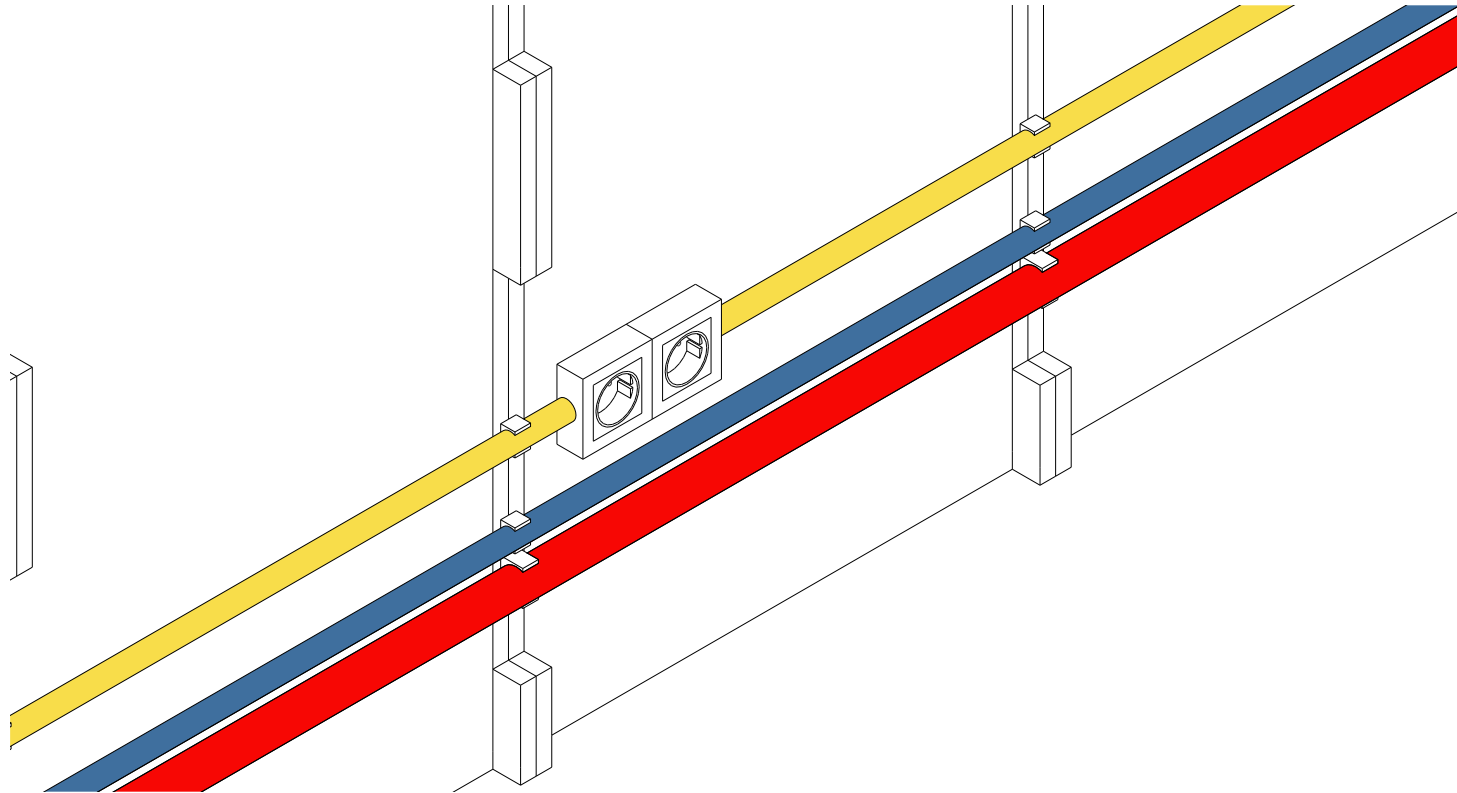
Laminate Flooring MDF  
Isoline Eco 3mm  
Fermacell 2E32  
Moistureproofing  
Birch Plywood 18mm  
Mineral Wool Insulation 274mm  
Birch Plywood 18mm  
Mineral Wool Insulation 70mm  
Waterproofing

# NON DEBATABLE INSTALLATIONS



# NON DEBATABLE INSTALLATIONS

MO  
KU  
KAI.





01

Project proposal

02

Research

03

Technical

04

Design

05

Phasing

06

Recap

# PROJECT PHASING

## WHEN WILL WHAT HAPPEN?

# TIMELINE

Phase 1:  
Designing

Architect

MO  
KU  
KAI.

# TIMELINE

Phase 1:  
Designing

Phase 2:  
Financial feasibility study

MO  
KU  
KAI.

Architect, Contractor, Housing Association

# TIMELINE

Phase 1:  
Designing

Phase 2:  
Financial feasibility study

Phase 3:  
Building makerspace, bike storage and elevator cores

Architect, Contractor, Housing Association,  
Students

MO  
KU  
KAI.

# TIMELINE

Phase 1:  
Designing

Phase 2:  
Financial feasibility study

Phase 3:  
Building makerspace, bike storage and elevator cores

Phase 4:  
Students start building their housing

Architect, Contractor, Housing Association,  
Students

01

Project proposal

02

Research

03

Technical

04

Design

05

Phasing

06

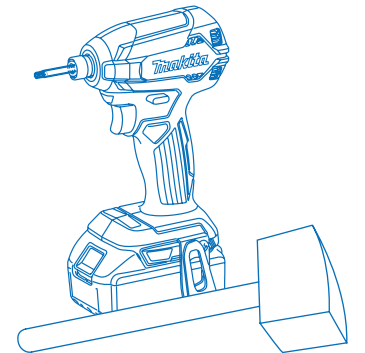
Recap



**RECAP**



*So who would like to join?*



*Thank you for your time*  
Are there any questions?