

# MO KU KAI.

THE WOOD COMMUNITY

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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# PROJECT NAME



MO  
KU  
KAI.

**Mokukai** (Japanese)

*"The Wood Community"*

Community building through participating  
in selfbuilding architecture and the built  
environment

# MOTIVATION

## WHY?

MO  
KU  
KAI.

### 01 Housing shortage

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

31500 students attend the TU Delft

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### **TU Delft wil flink groeien in drie steden: '40 procent meer studenten voor 2030'**

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

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MO  
KU  
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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?***

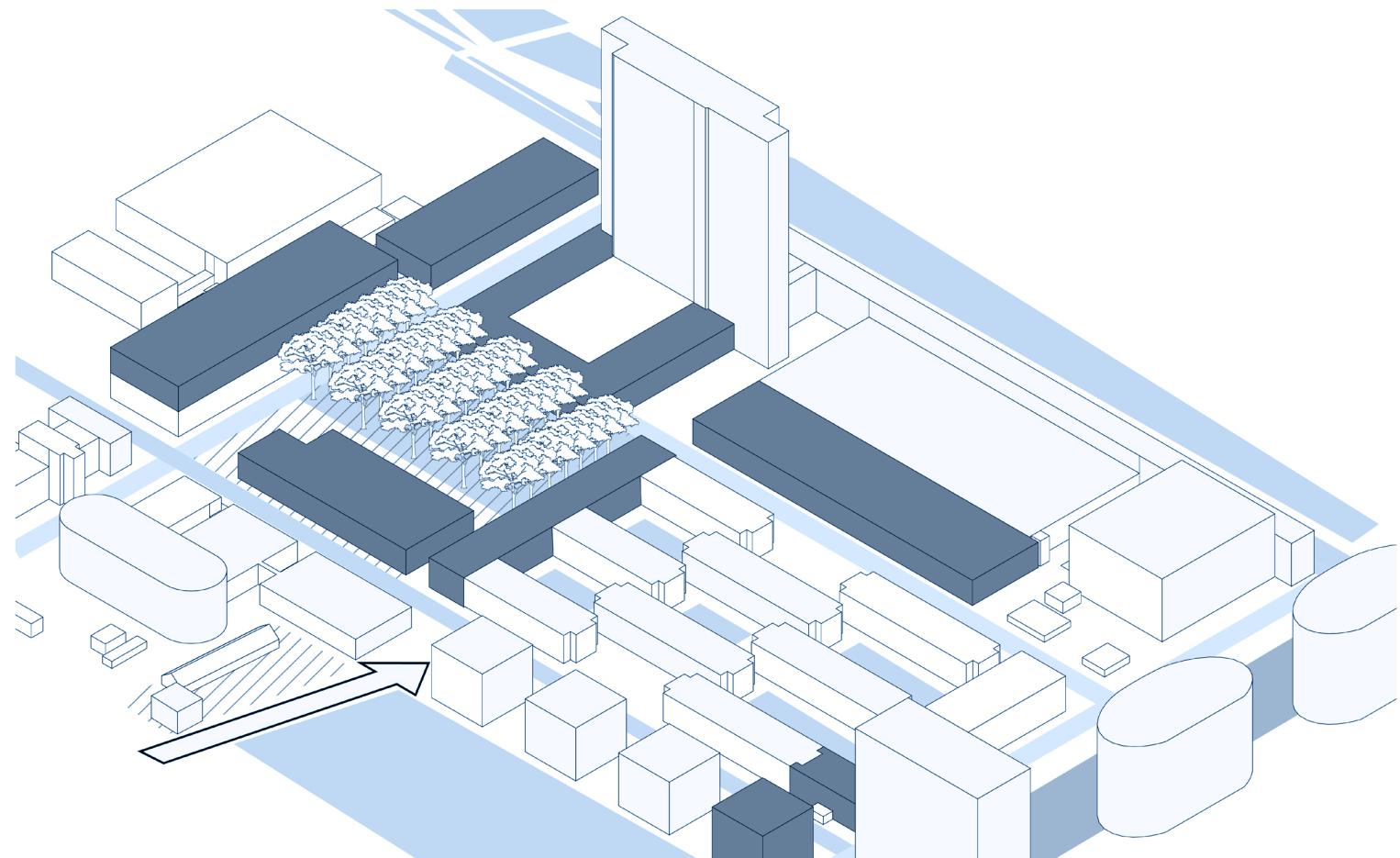
Solution for both problems

- 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.



FLUX MOKUKAI

*But how do you design for selfbuilding?*

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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

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### 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

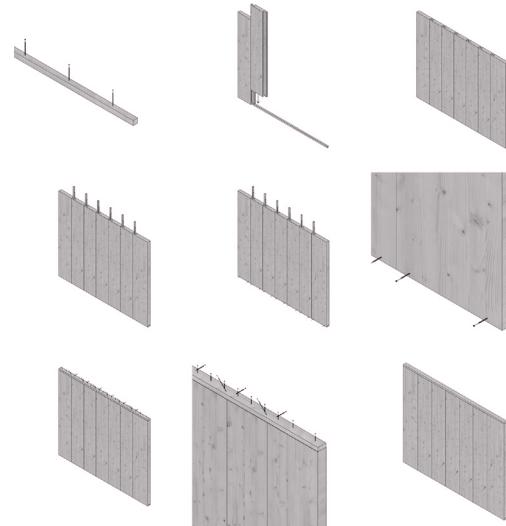
## PAIRWISE CRITERIA CHART

	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	38,8	9,05
Tool complexity	2		1/2	1	1	1	4	4	8	3	9	5	6	7	51,5	12,02
Required operator skill	3	2		2	2	2	5	5	9	4	9	6	7	8	64	14,93
Ability to grip	2	1	1/2		1	1	4	4	8	3	9	5	6	7	51,5	12,02
Weight	2	1	1/2	1		1	4	4	8	3	9	5	6	7	51,5	12,02
Dimensions	2	1	1/2	1	1		4	4	8	3	9	5	6	7	51,5	12,02
Connector integration	1/3	1/4	1/5	1/4	1/4	1/4		1	5	1/2	6	2	3	4	23	5,37
Support integration	1/3	1/4	1/5	1/4	1/4	1/4	1		5	1/2	6	2	3	4	23	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	4,7	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	31,1	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	2,6	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	16,6	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	11,4	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		7,40	1,73

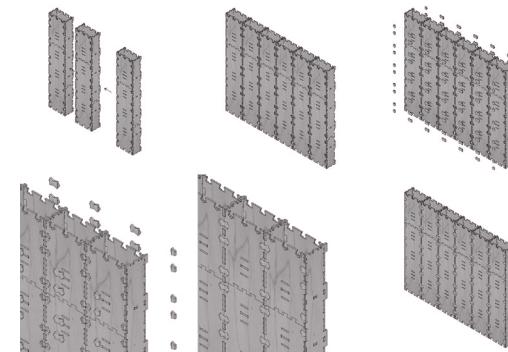
*The evaluation tool is ready*  
But does it work?

# VALIDATION CASE STUDIES

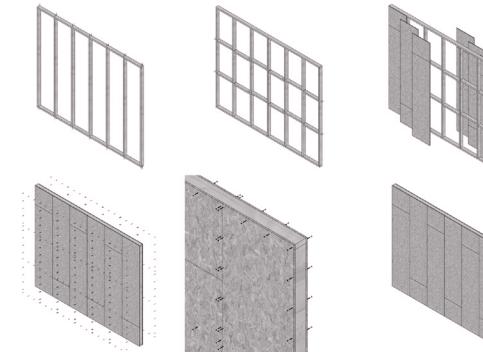
MO  
KU  
KAI.



KLIK-KLIK™ WALL by CLT Factory



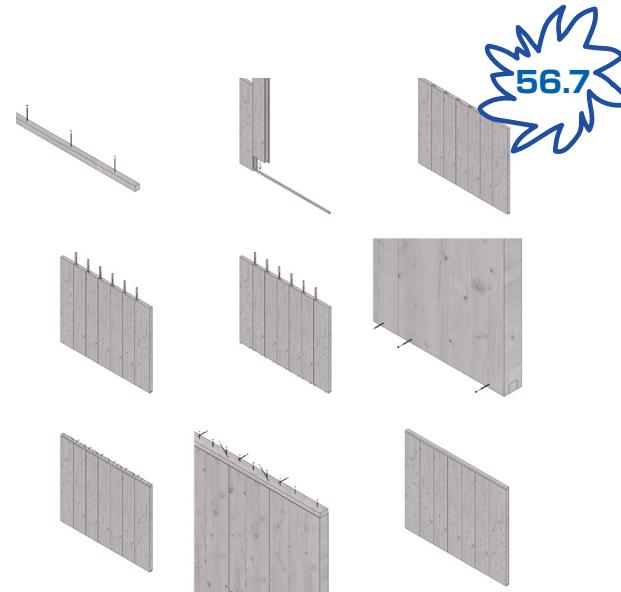
Skylark 250 by WikiHouse



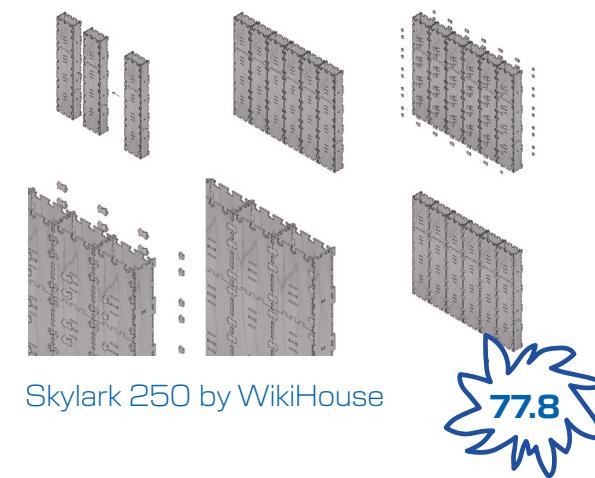
Conventional timber frame construction

# VALIDATION CASE STUDIES

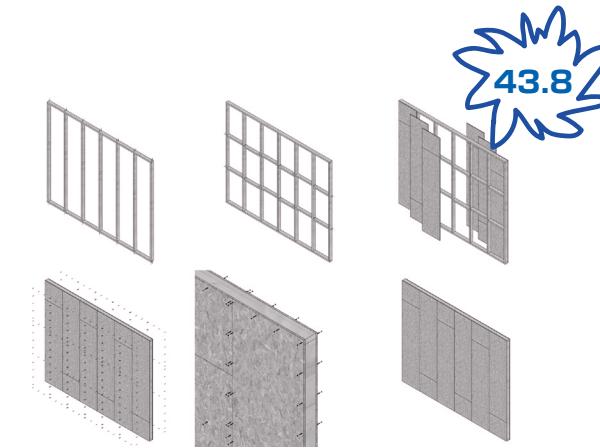
MO  
KU  
KAI.



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

01

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Phasing

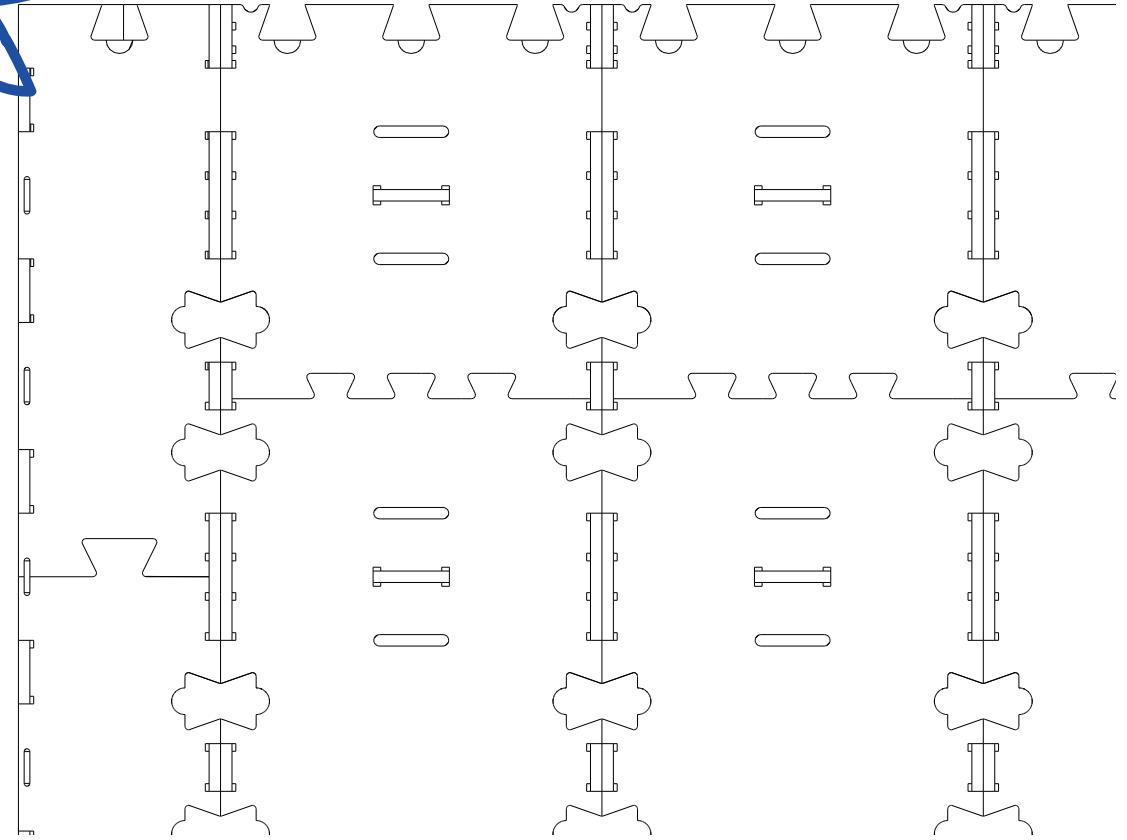
06

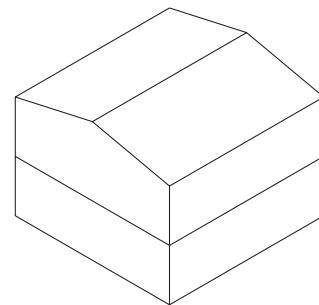
Recap

77.8

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

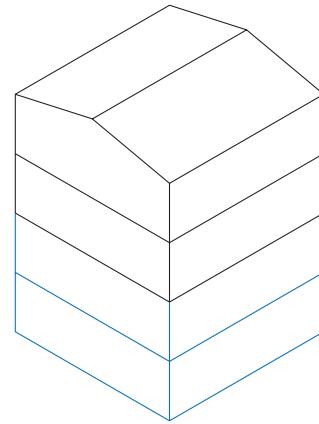
These elements are assembled with nails or screws and fastened together with bowties.





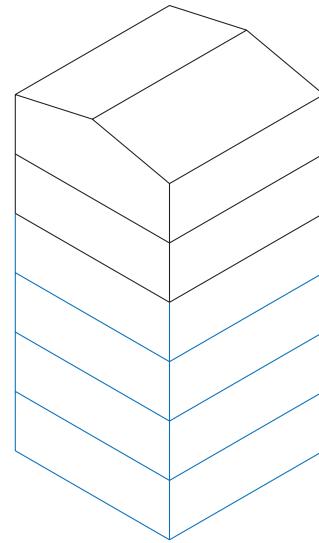
WIKIHOUSE IS DESIGNED  
FOR SINGLE DWELLINGS  
UP TO TWO STOREYS

# ISSUE



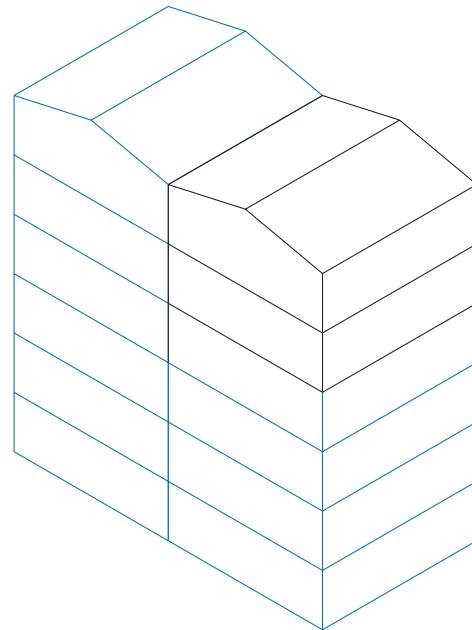
MULTIPLE  
TWO STOREYS

# ISSUE



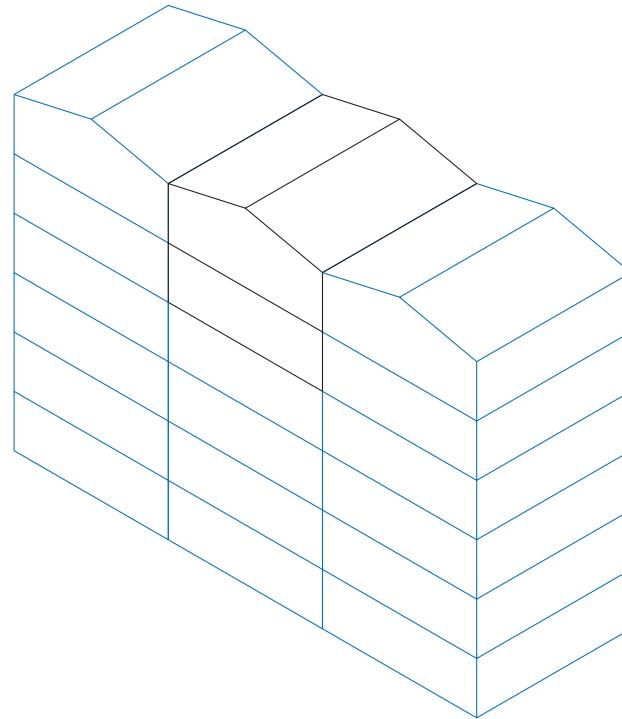
MULTIPLE  
TWO STOREYS

# ISSUE



MULTIPLE  
TWO STOREYS

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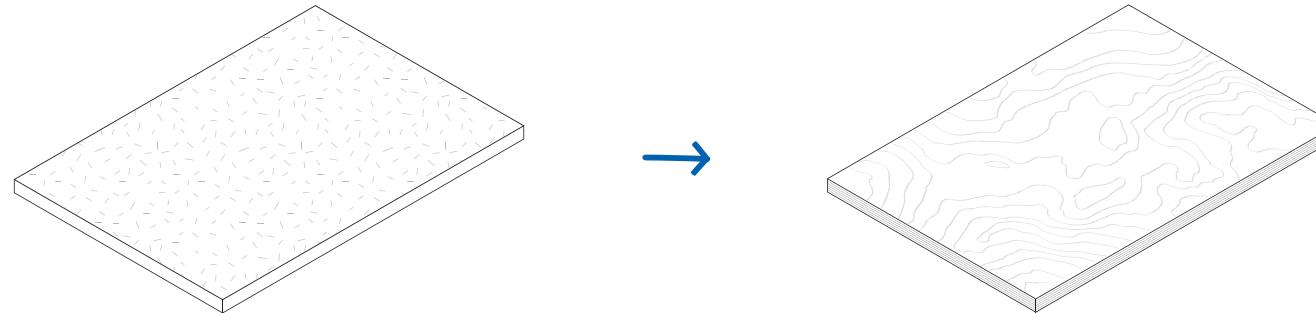
MULTIPLE  
TWO STOREYS

# ISSUE

*It needs reinforcement!*

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

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KAI.

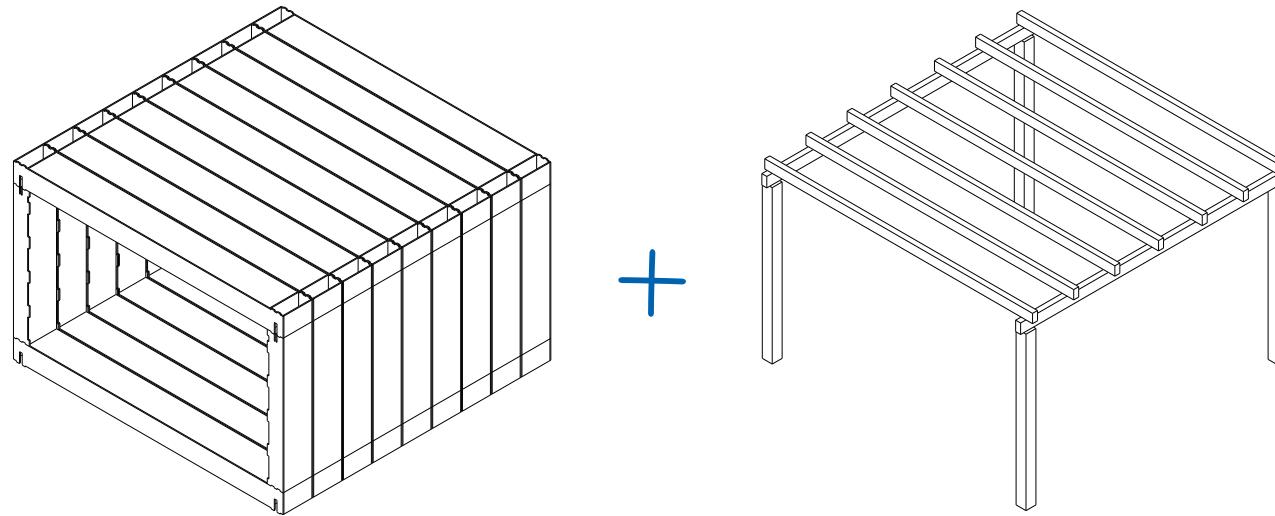


SOLUTIONS

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

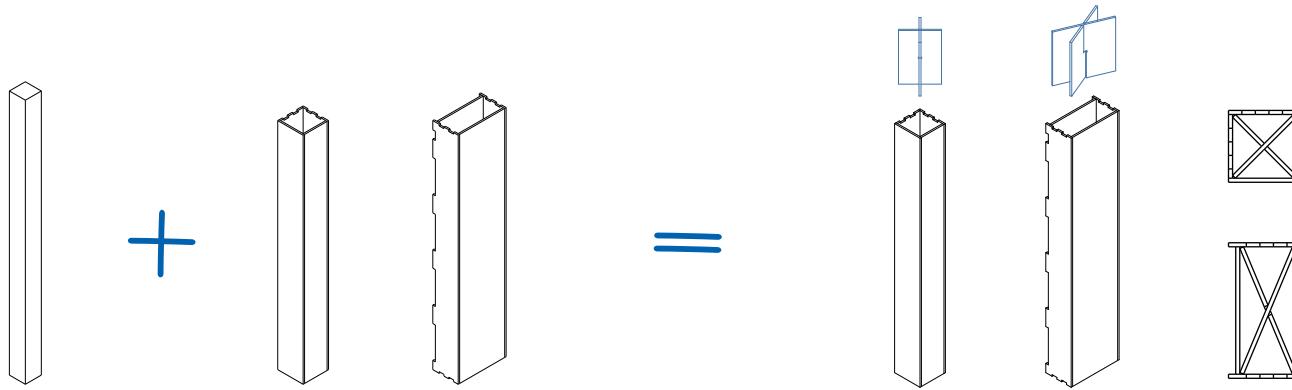
MO  
KU  
KAI.

SOLUTIONS



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

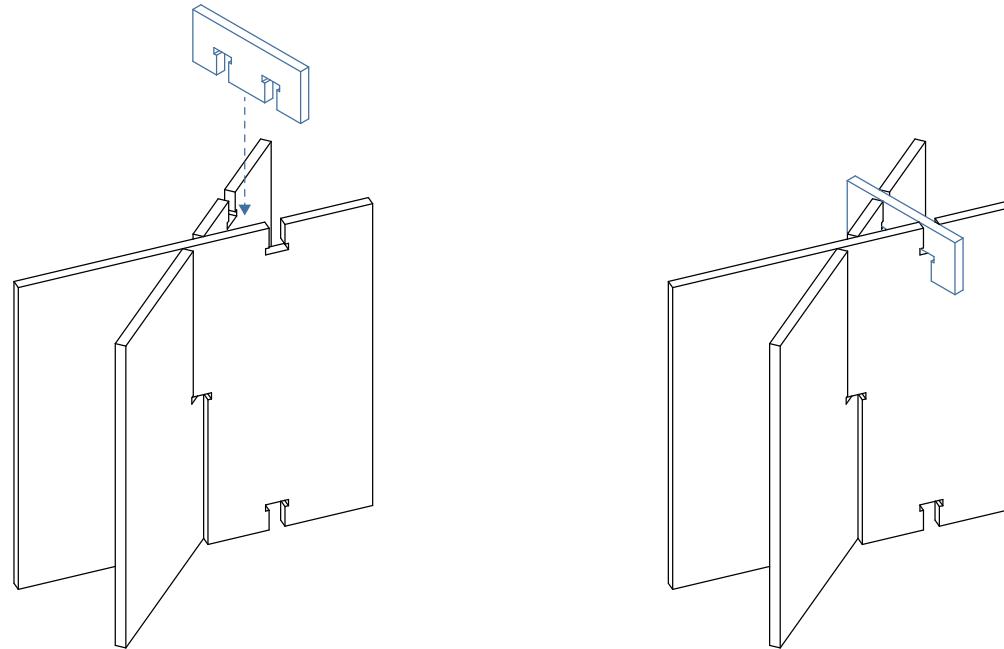
MO  
KU  
KAI.



SOLUTIONS

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.

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KU  
KAI.

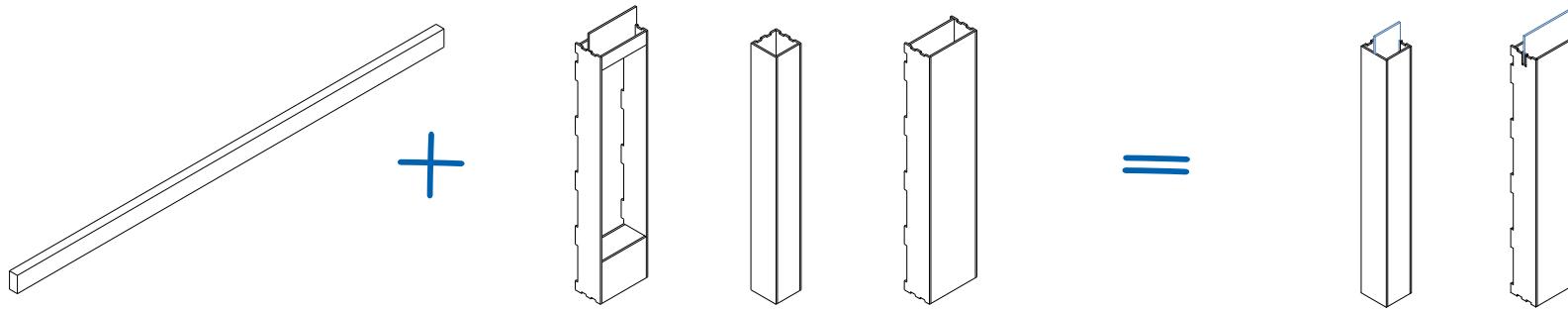


SOLUTIONS

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

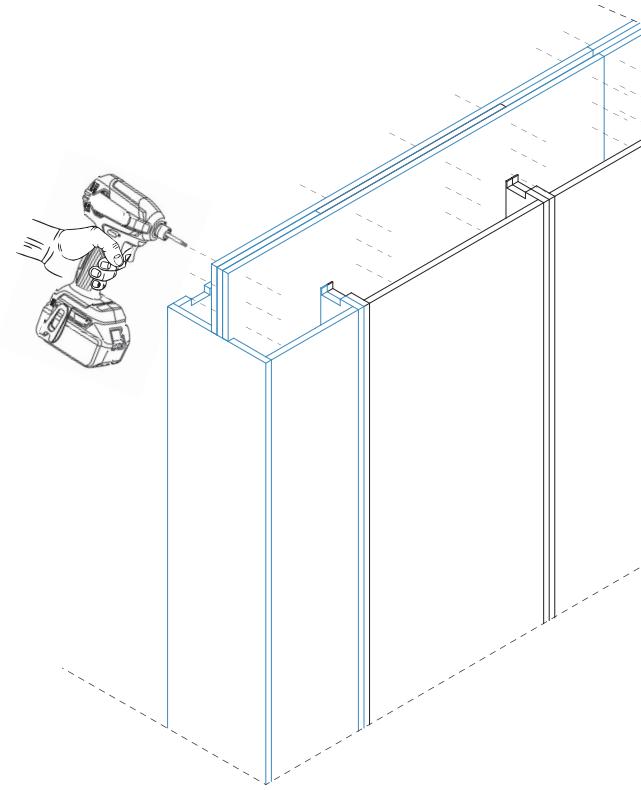
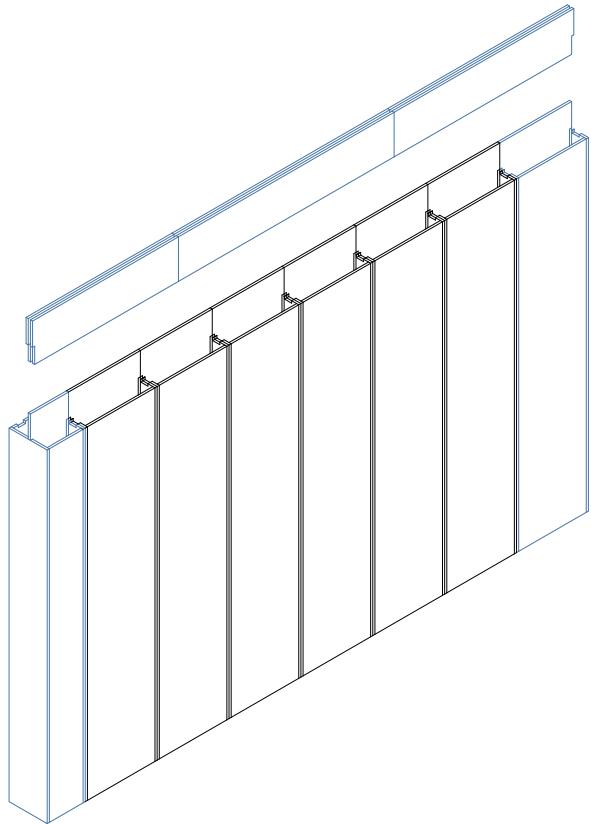
MO  
KU  
KAI.

**SOLUTIONS**



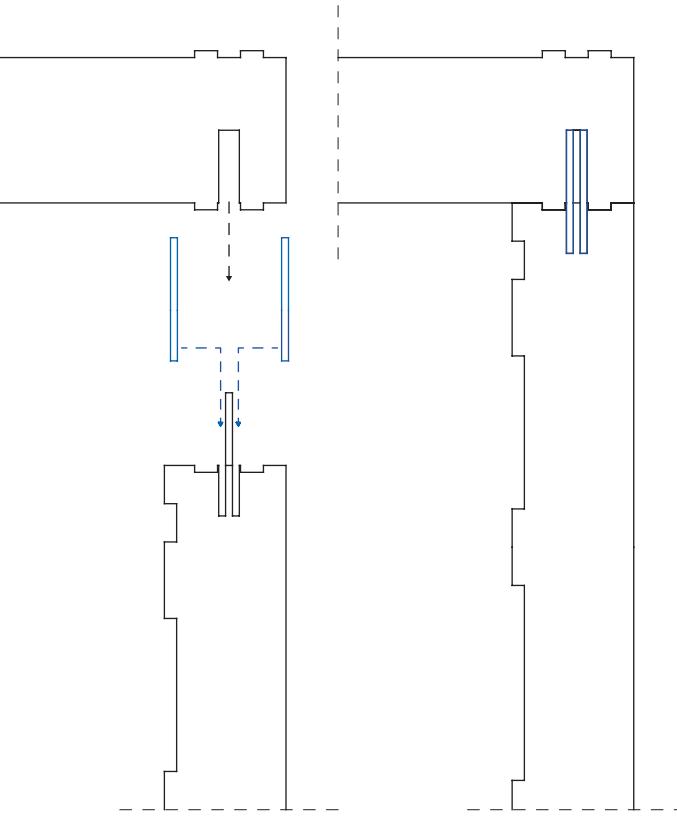
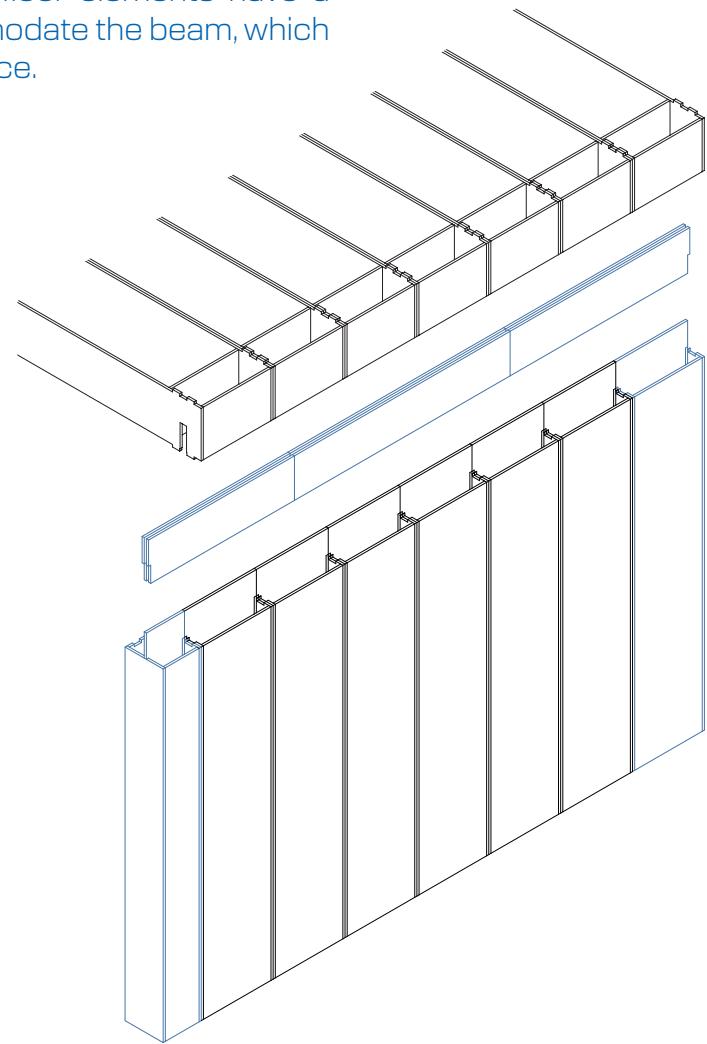
The lintels get sandwiched between two longer pieces of plywood and create a beam between reinforced elements.

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KU  
KAI.



**SOLUTIONS**

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



# SOLUTIONS

01

Project proposal

02

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Technical

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Design

05

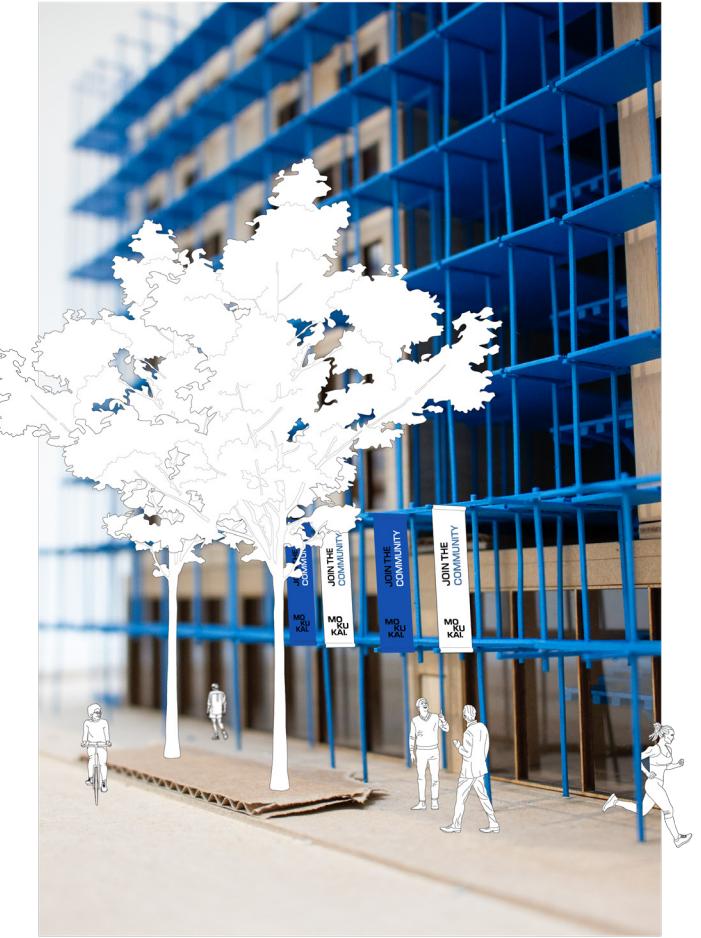
Phasing

06

Recap



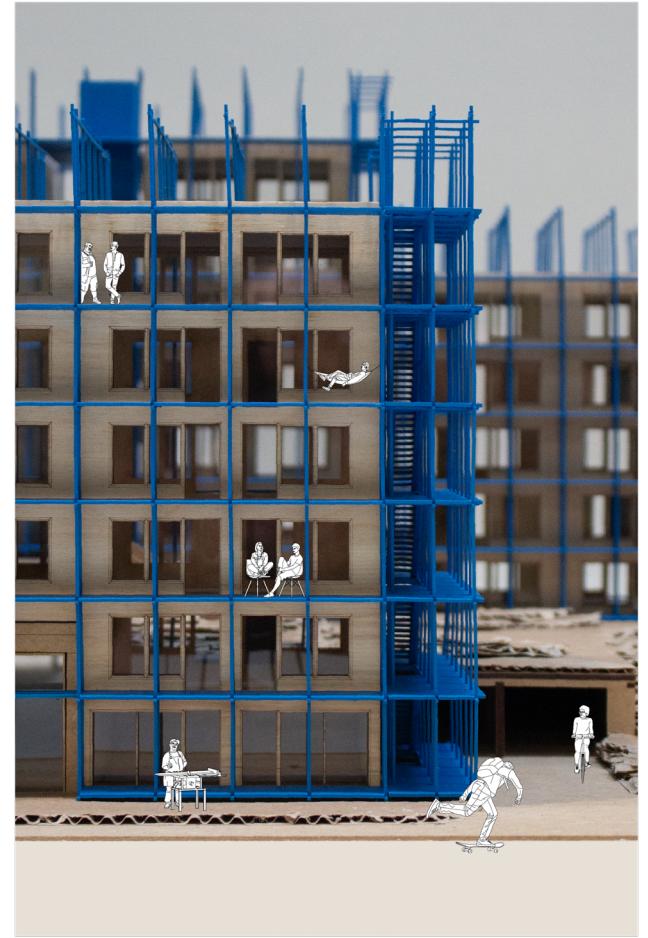
# MAKERSPACE



MO  
KU  
KAI.

# WORK STUDIOS

MO  
KU  
KAI.



# CAFE COFFEE★'S NEW LOCATION



*Now let's build a house*

# HOUSING

## WHAT CAN YOU BUILD?

MO  
KU  
KAI.

# CATALOG

MO  
KU  
KAI.



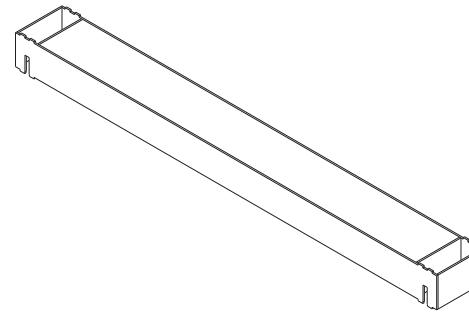
**NEW\***

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



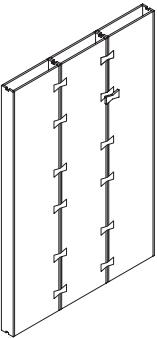
**NEW\***

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

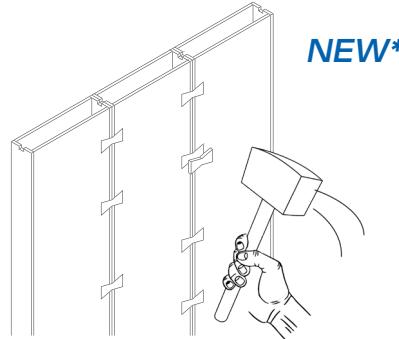


FLOOR  
l: 4836, w: 600, h: 380

# CATALOG



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

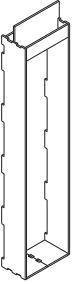


Wikihouse is designed only as the outer shell of the house. Therefore internal walls still rely on traditional carpentry to be put up.

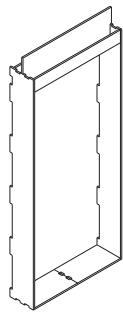
That's where this adapted version comes into play. It uses the same development process and installation as the outer shell.

Just a slimmer version

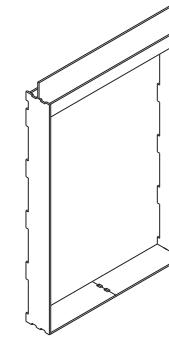
# CATALOG



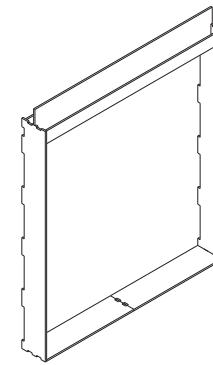
WINDOW SMALL 1  
l: 600, w: 318, h: 2700



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



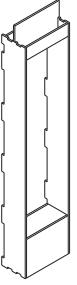
WINDOW LARGE 1  
l: 1800, w: 318, h: 2700



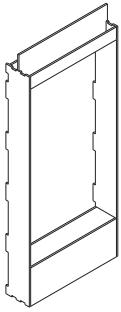
WINDOW XLARGE 1  
l: 2400, w: 318, h: 2700

**NEW\***

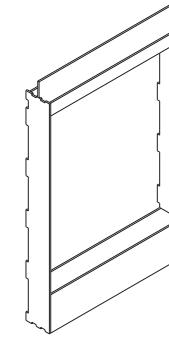
# CATALOG



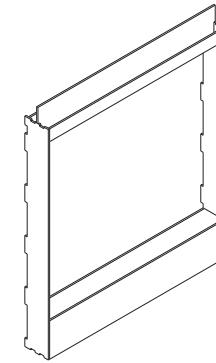
WINDOW SMALL 2  
l: 600, w: 318, h: 2700



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



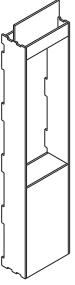
WINDOW LARGE 2  
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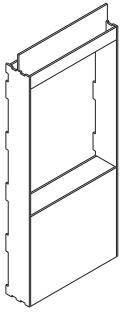
WINDOW XLARGE 2  
l: 2400, w: 318, h: 2700

**NEW\***

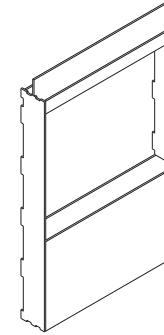
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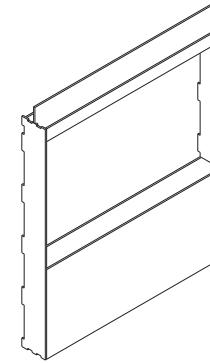
WINDOW SMALL 3  
l: 600, w: 318, h: 2700



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



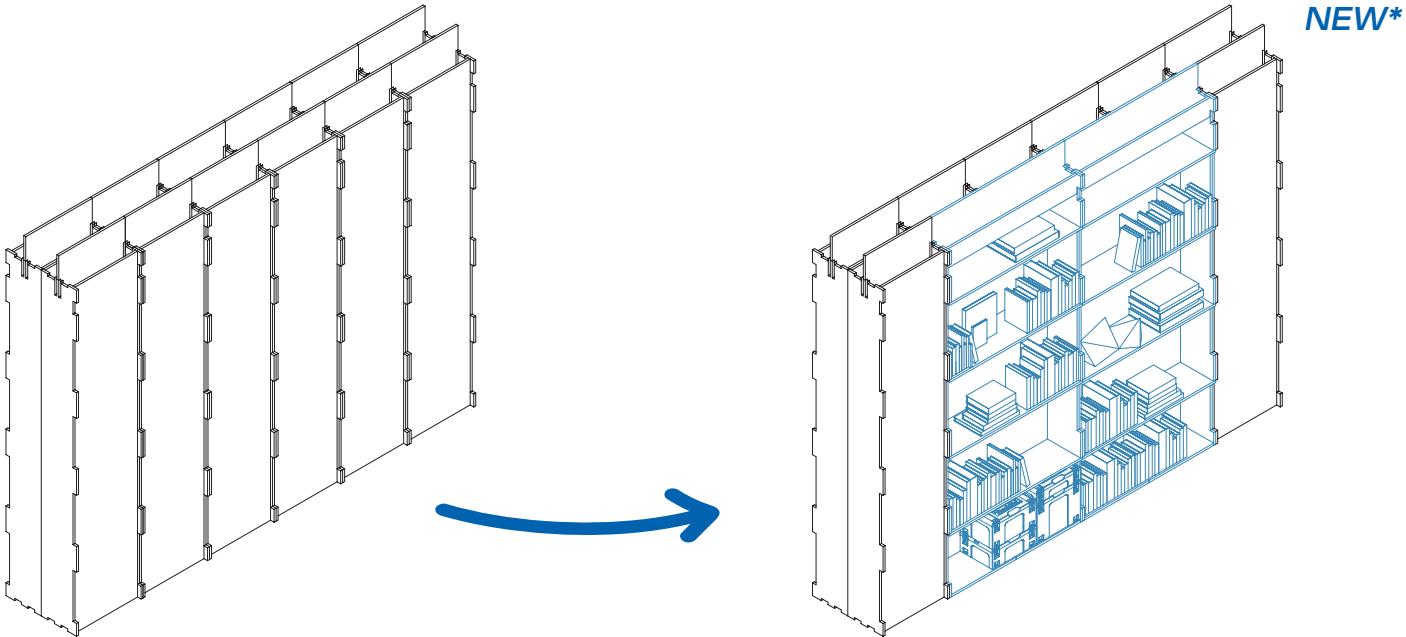
WINDOW LARGE 3  
l: 1800, w: 318, h: 2700



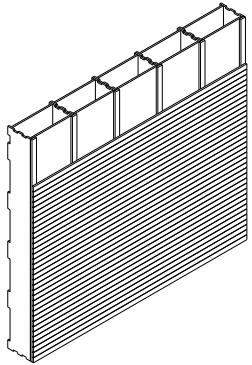
WINDOW XLARGE 3  
l: 2400, w: 318, h: 2700

**NEW\***

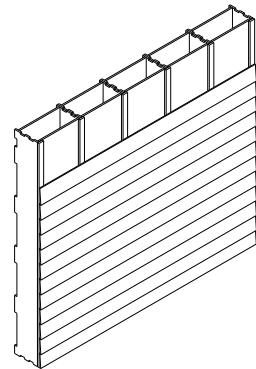
# CATALOG



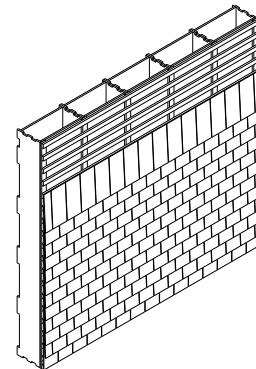
# CATALOG



CLICKWOOD  
Horizontal or vertical slats

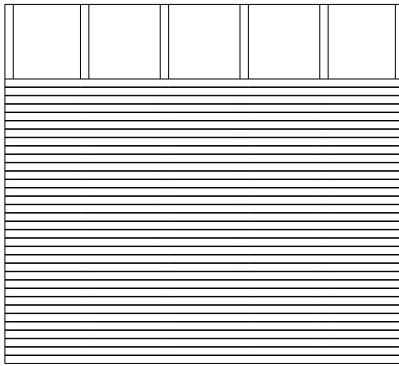


SWEDISH RABAT  
Horizontal boards

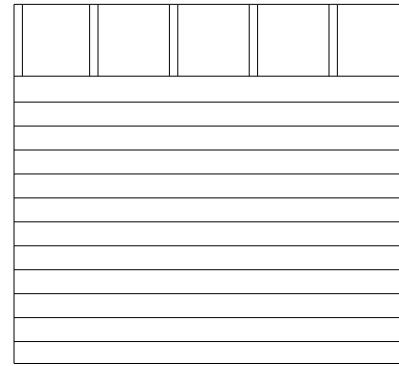


SHINGLES  
Wooden 'tiles'

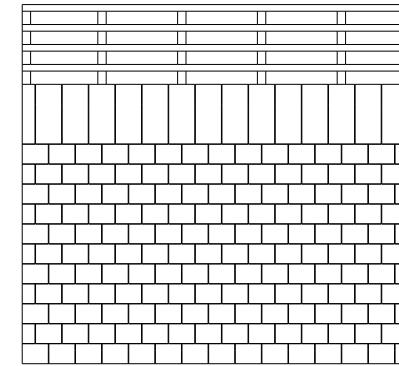
# CATALOG



CLICKWOOD  
Horizontal or vertical slats



SWEDISH RABAT  
Horizontal boards



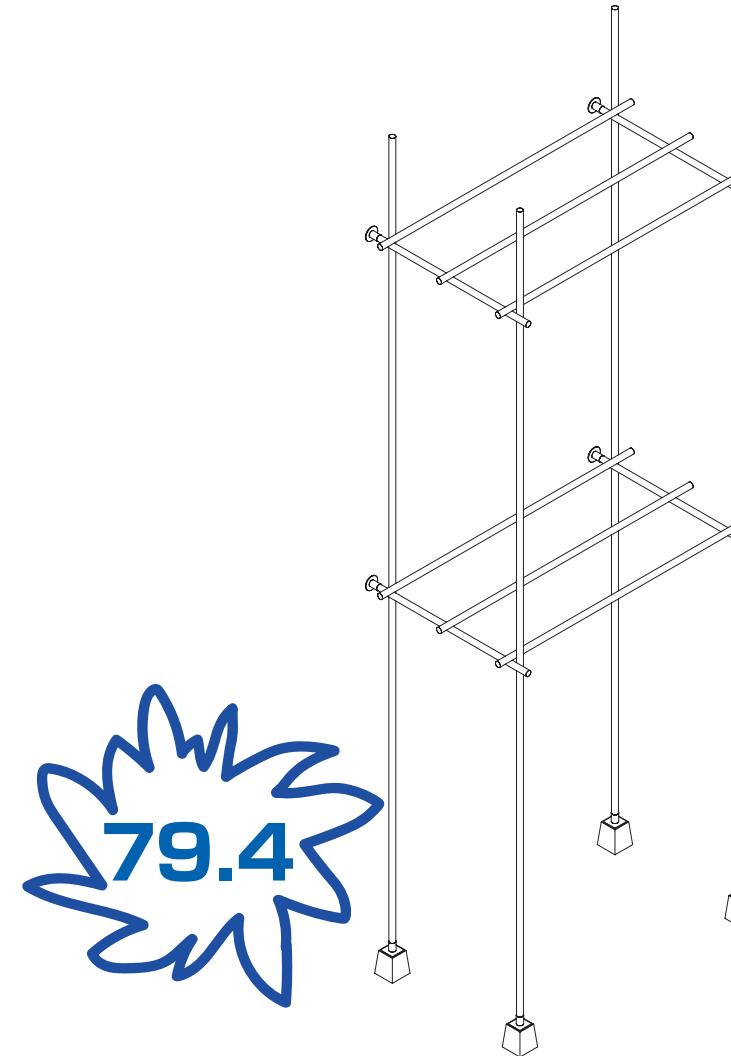
SHINGLES  
Wooden 'tiles'



Douglas fir

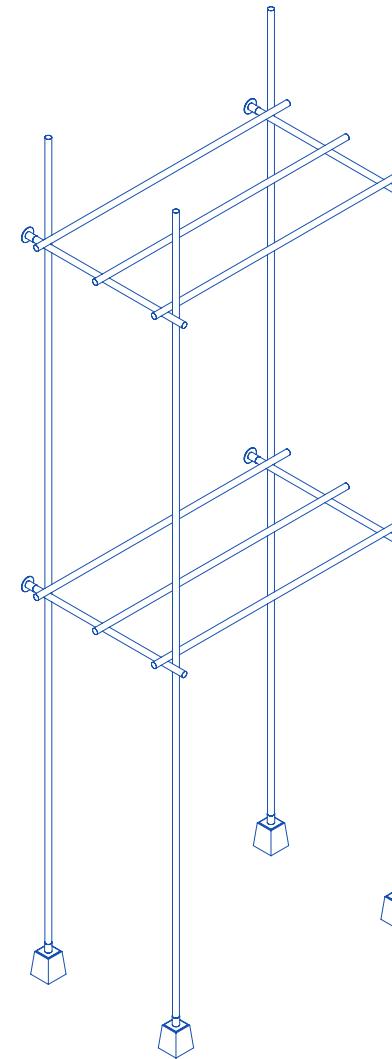
# SCAFFOLDING

MO  
KU  
KAI.



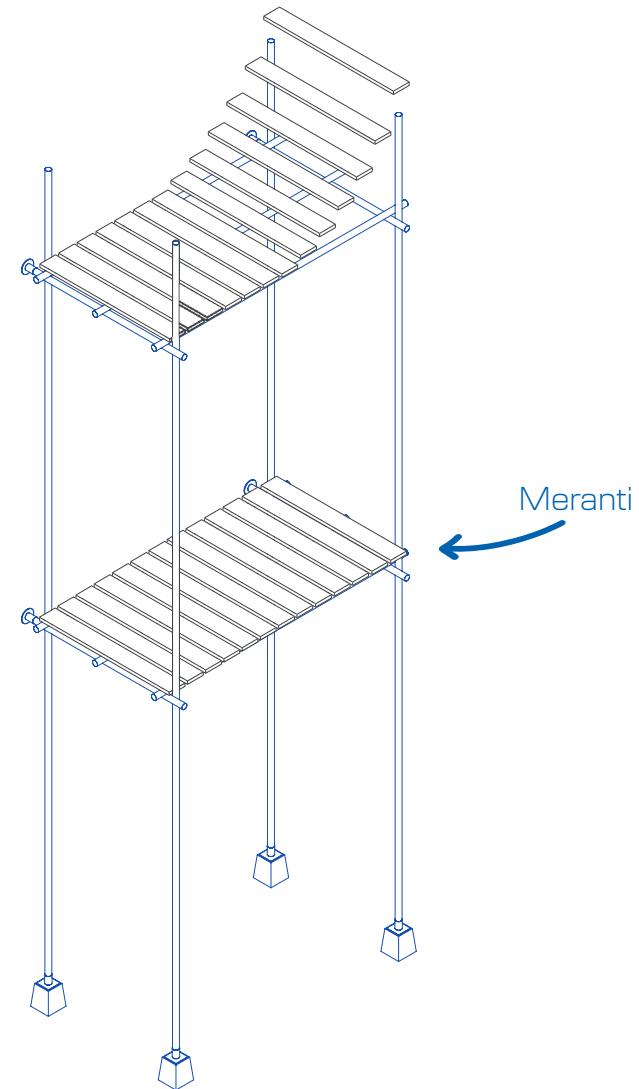
# SCAFFOLDING

MO  
KU  
KAI.



# SCAFFOLDING

MO  
KU  
KAI.

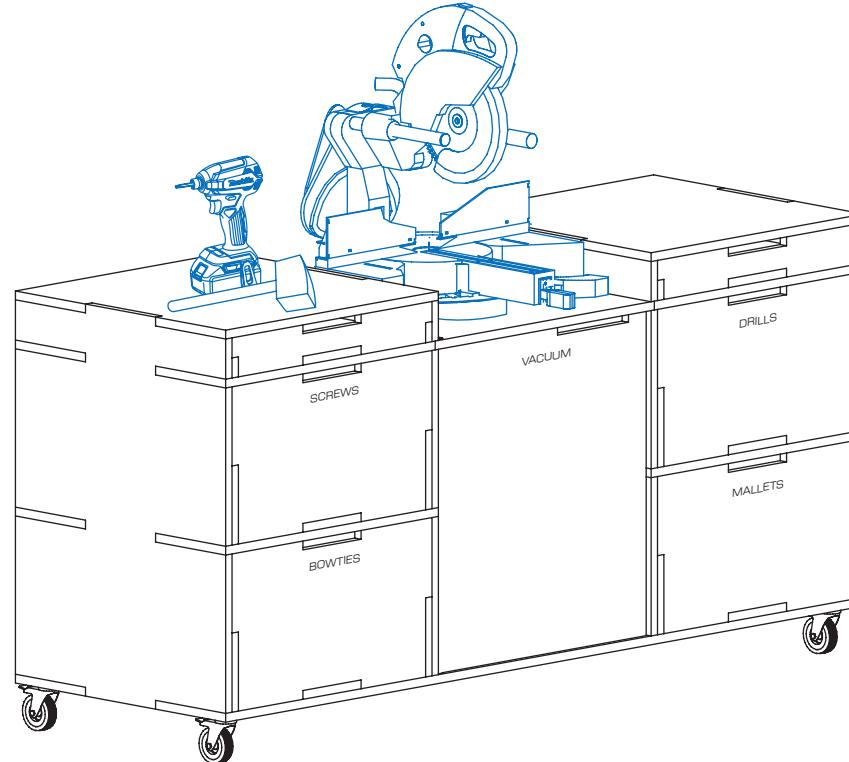


# TOOLS



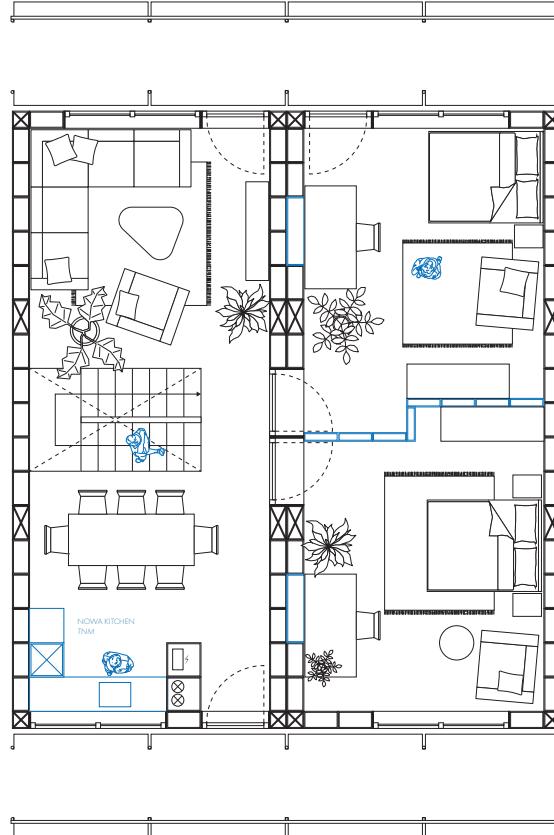
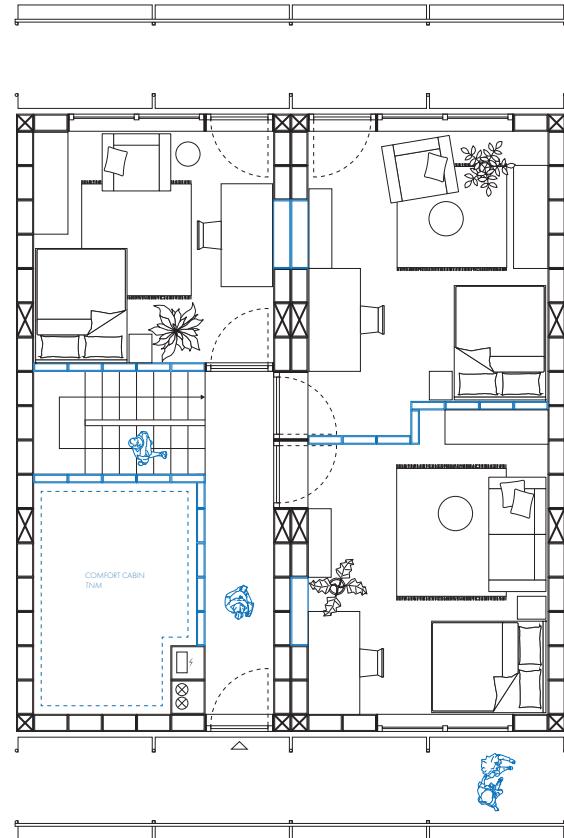
After the CNC-machine has milled the birch plywood into the right dimensions, the assembly of the building elements can start.

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



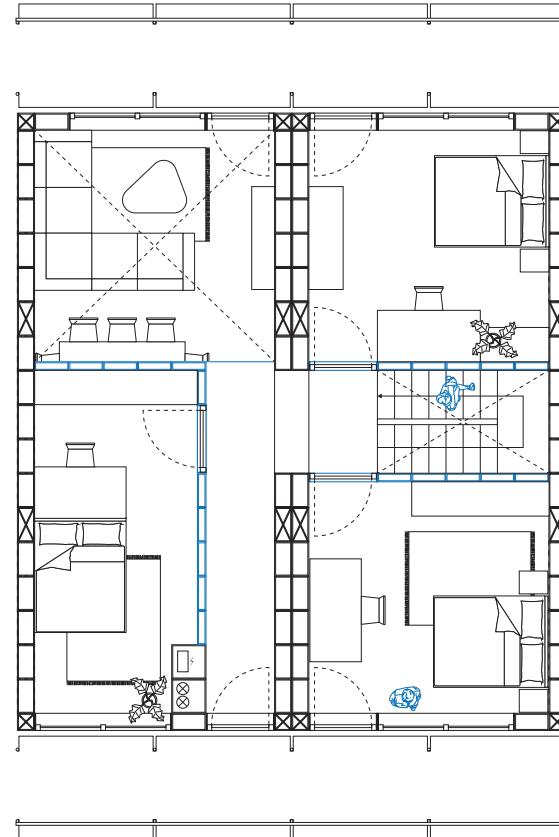
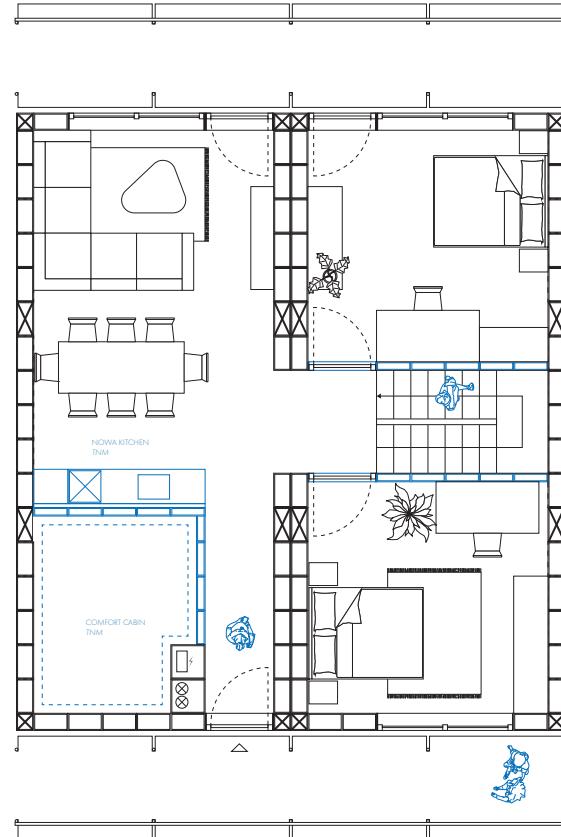
# FLOORPLANS SUGGESTIONS

5 person  
maisonette



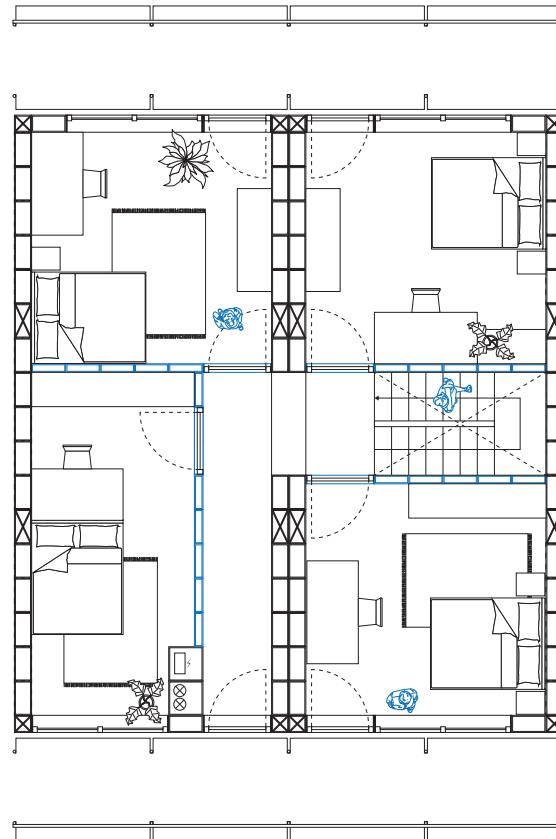
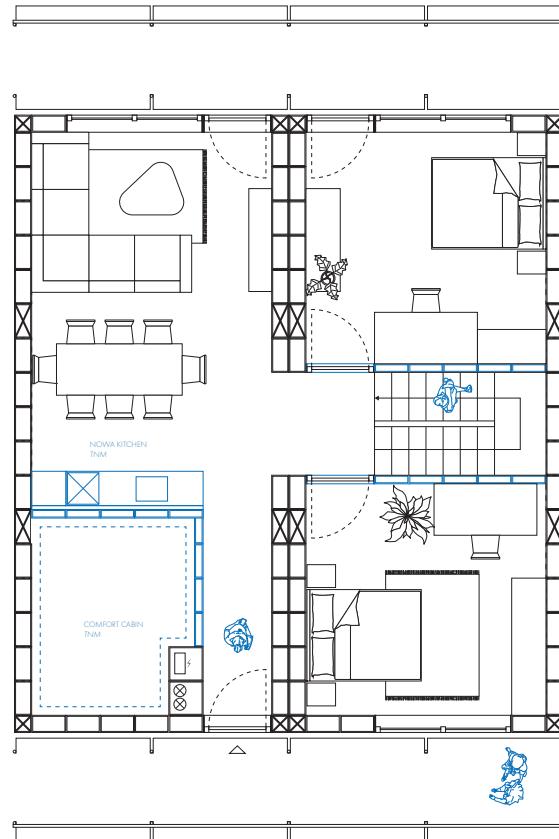
# FLOORPLANS SUGGESTIONS

5 person  
maisonette with  
entresol



# FLOORPLANS SUGGESTIONS

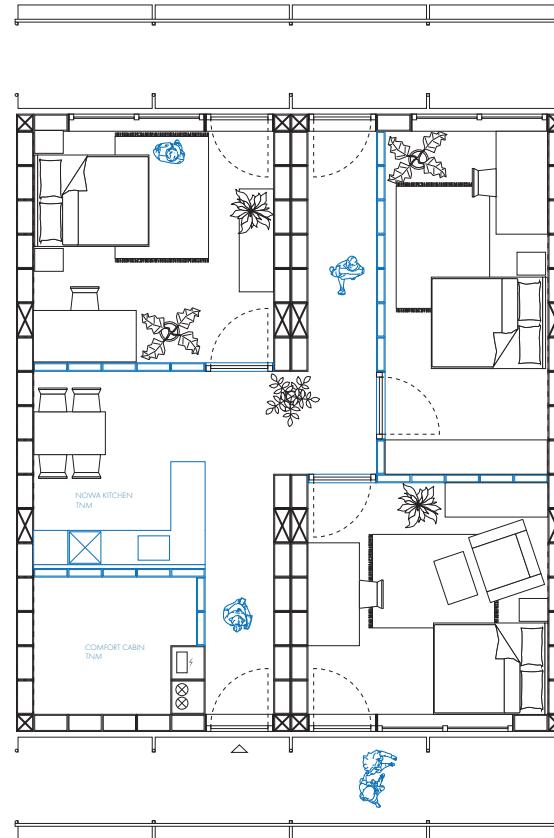
6 person  
maisonette



# FLOORPLANS SUGGESTIONS

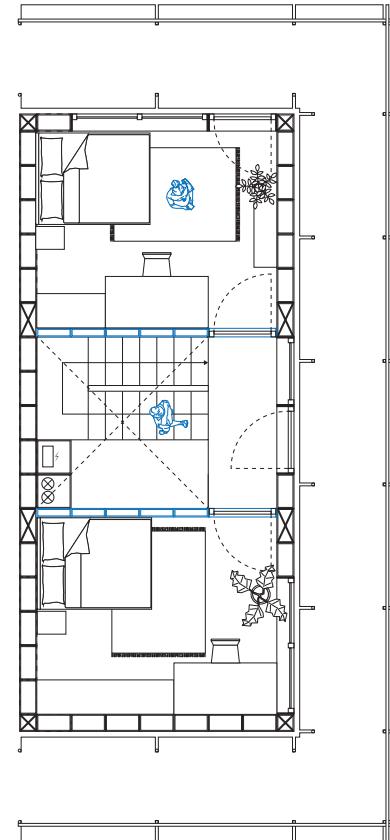
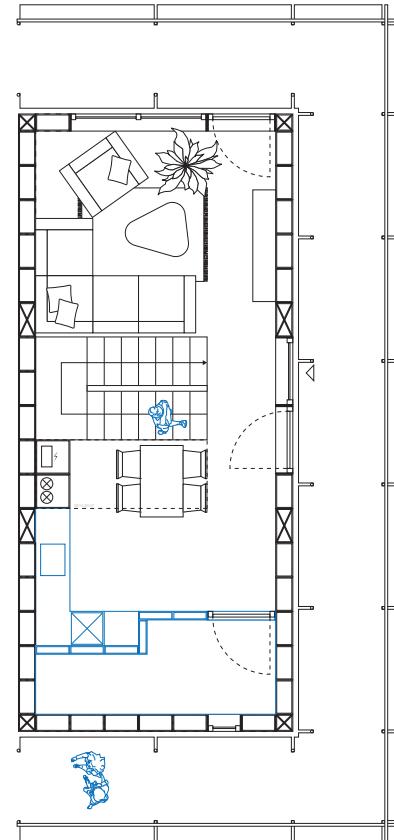
3 person  
single floor

MO  
KU  
KAI.



# FLOORPLANS SUGGESTIONS

2 person  
maisonette



**Kees**

25 yrs  
Mechanical Engineering  
Industrial Design

**Jonne**

24 yrs  
Architecture  
Urbanism

**Lotte**

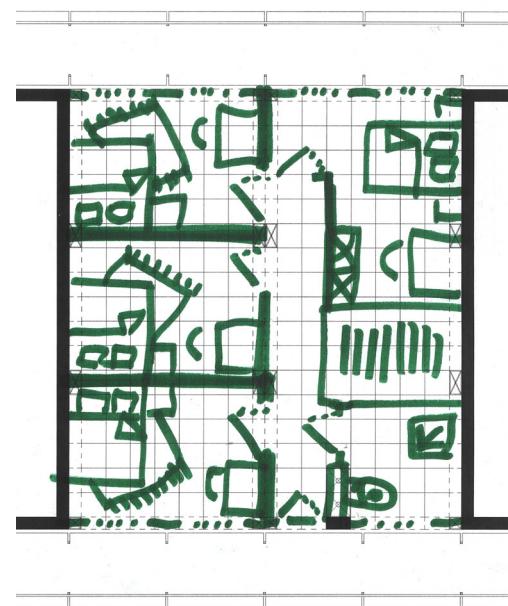
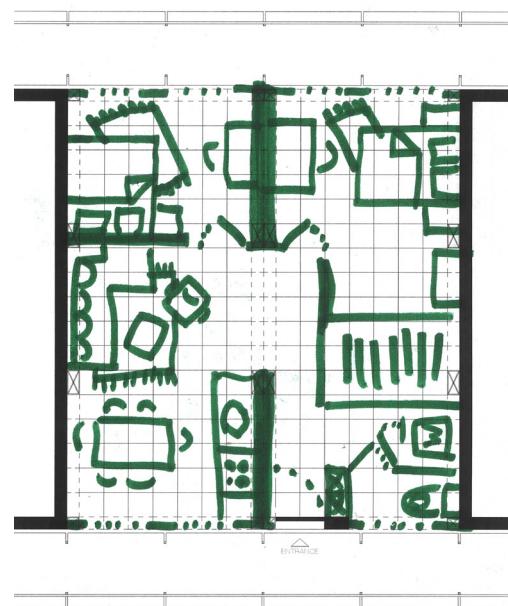
24 yrs  
Industrial Design  
Geo design

**Micha**

26 yrs  
Policy Analysis

**MO  
KU  
KAI.**

# EXPERIMENT



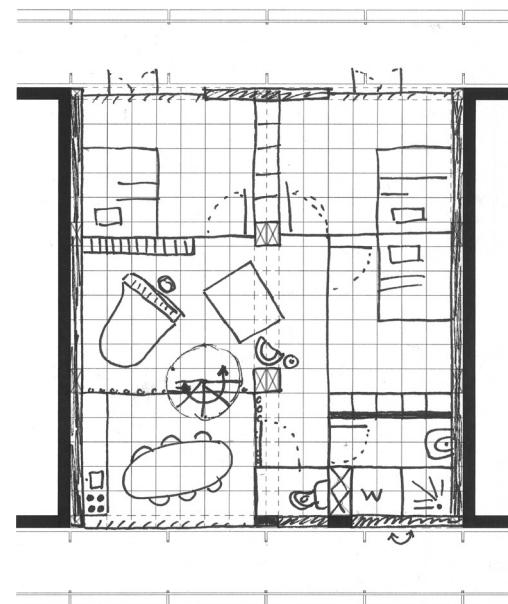
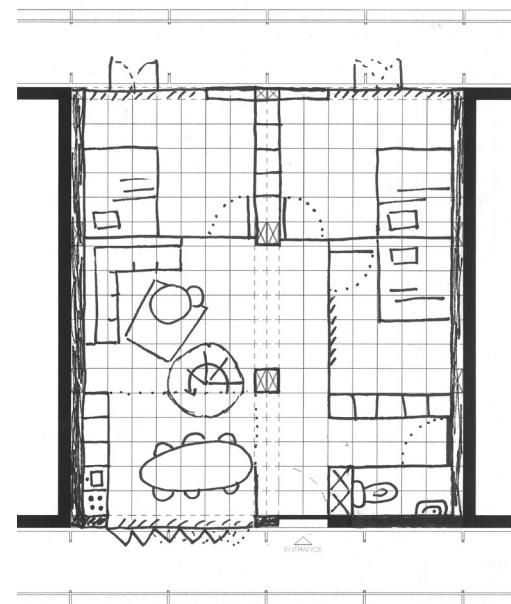
Large rooms. Bathroom next to utility chute. No structural issues

One room without direct sunlight

Jonne

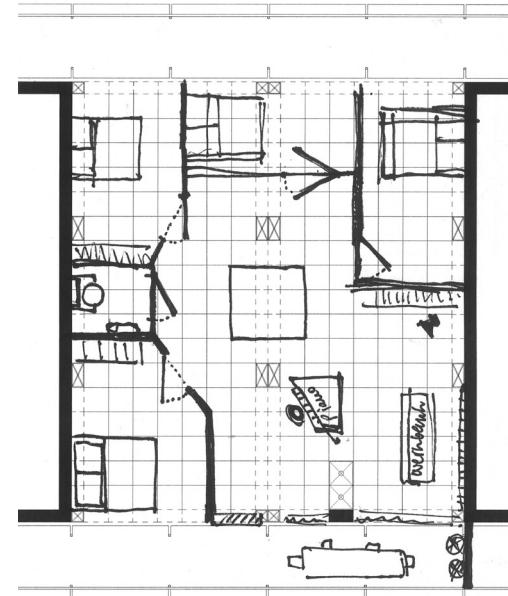
24 yrs  
Architecture  
Urbanism

MO  
KU  
KAI.



Spiral staircase. Bath-  
room as close as possi-  
ble to utility chute

Two rooms without direct  
sunlight. some structural  
issues



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

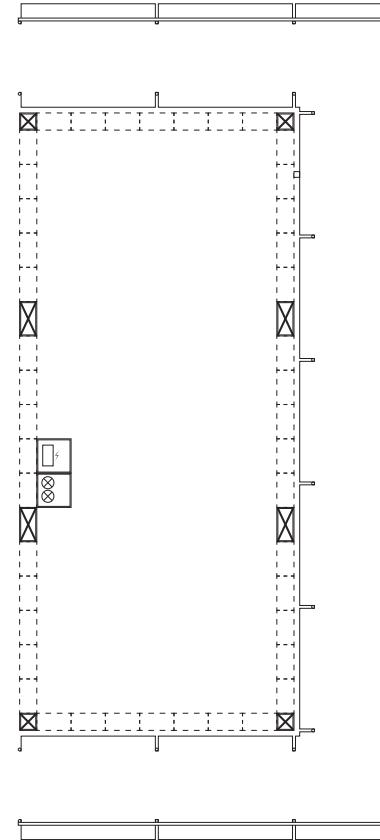
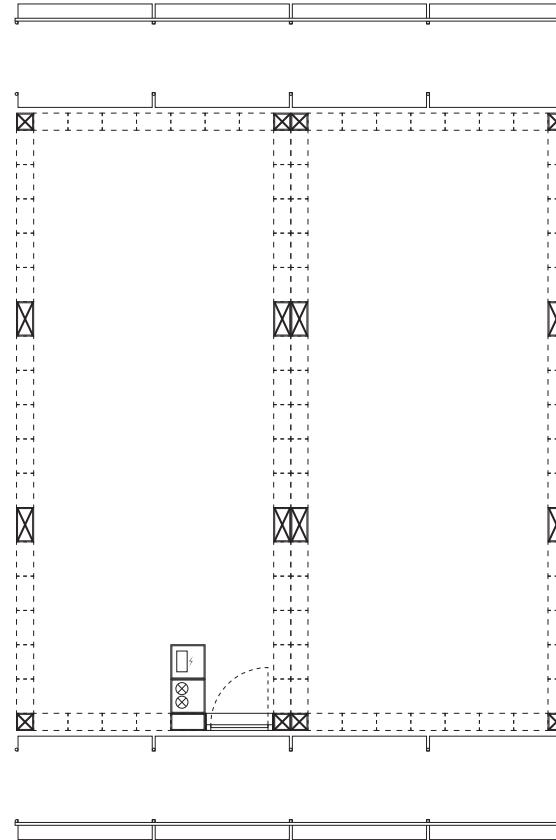


Pushed back facade to create a bigger balcony.

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

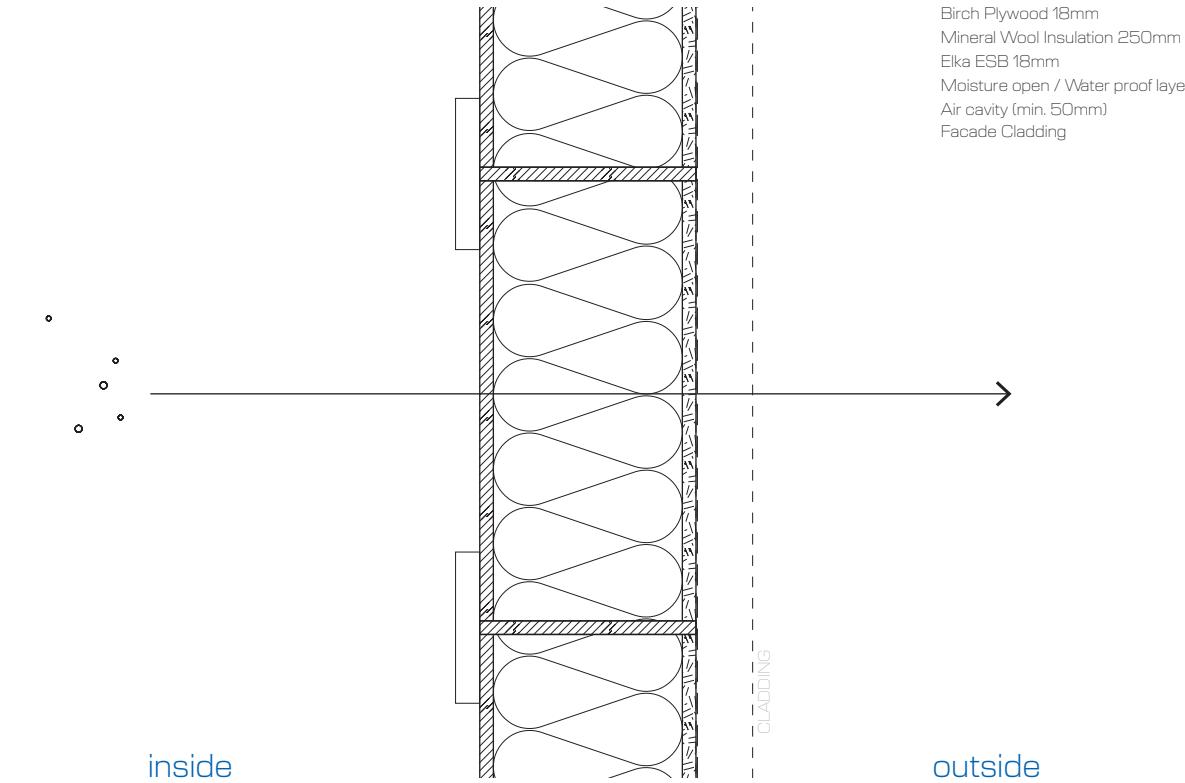
# NON DEBATABLE STRUCTURAL

MO  
KU  
KAI.



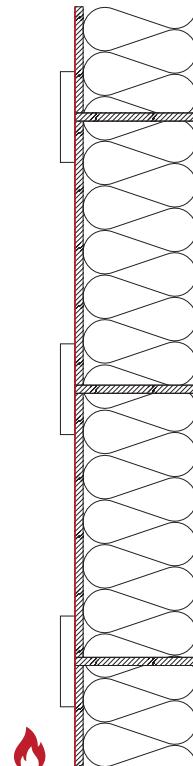
# NON DEBATABLE MOISTURE OPEN

MO  
KU  
KAI.

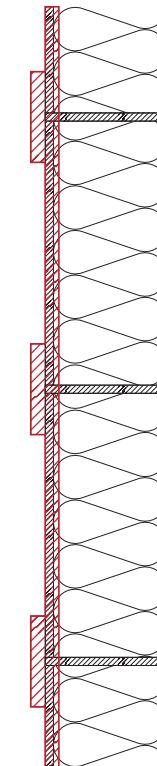
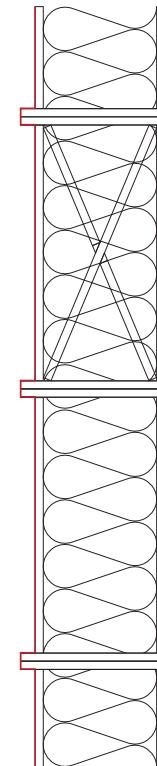


# NON DEBATABLE SAFETY

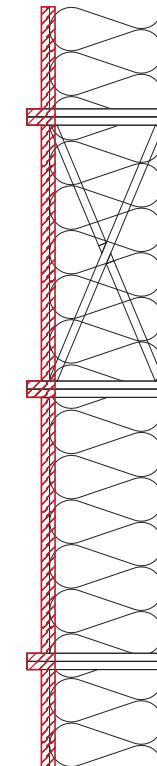
FIRE



Fire (start: 0 min.)

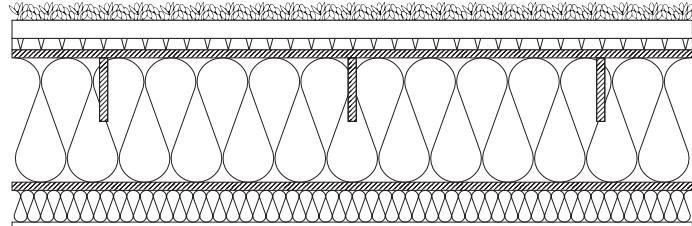


Fire (30 min., 1mm/min)

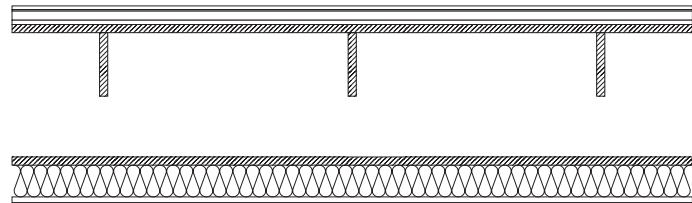


# NON DEBATABLE SAFETY

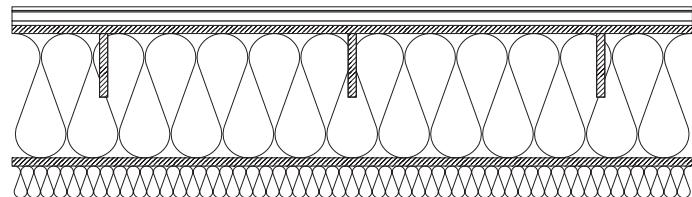
FIRE & SOUND



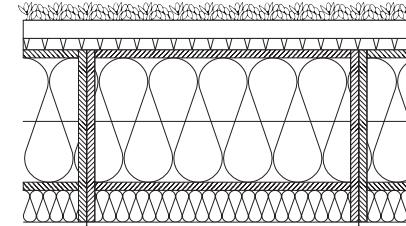
Roof



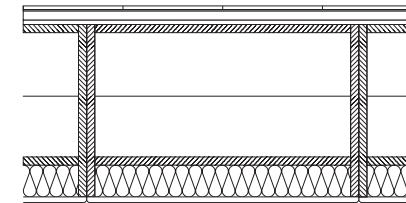
Floors



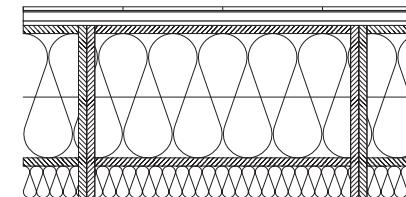
Ground Floor



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



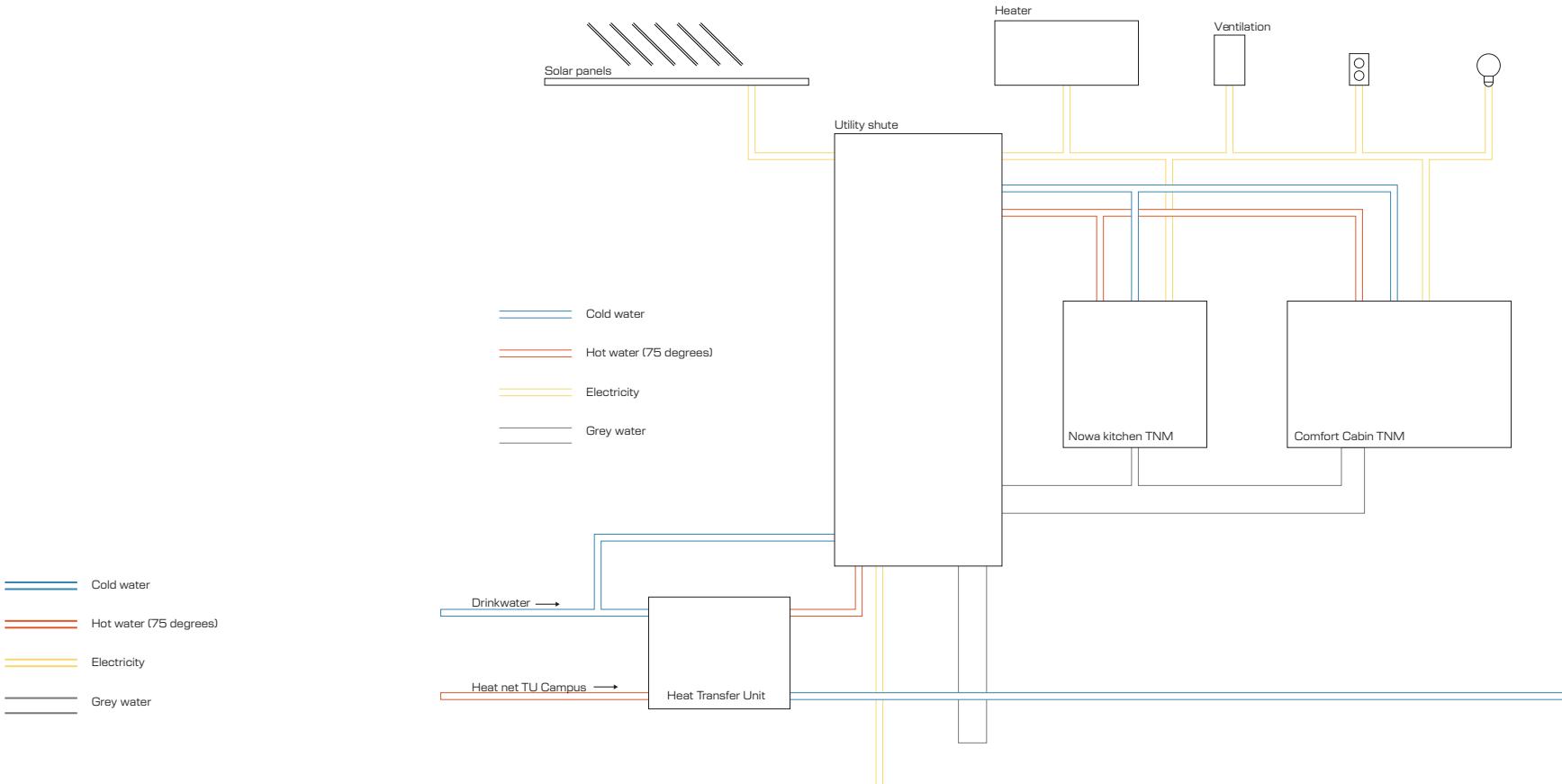
Laminate Flooring MDF  
Isoline Eco 3mm  
Fermacell 2E32  
Birch Plywood 18mm  
Birch Plywood 18mm  
Mineral Wool Insulation 70mm  
Gibson Board 12.5mm



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

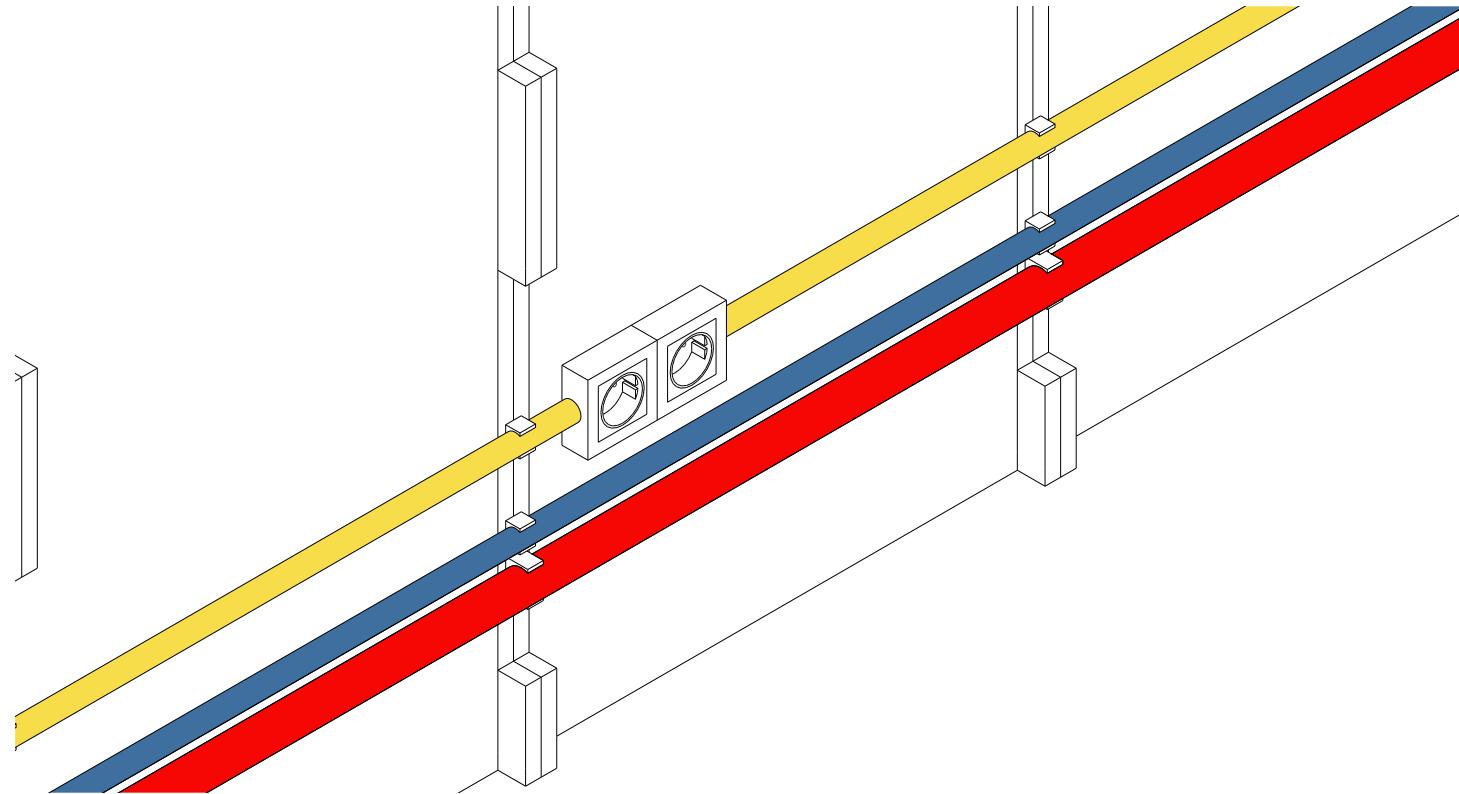
# NON DEBATABLE INSTALLATIONS

MO  
KU  
KAI.



# 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?

MO  
KU  
KAI.

Phase 1:  
Designing

# TIMELINE

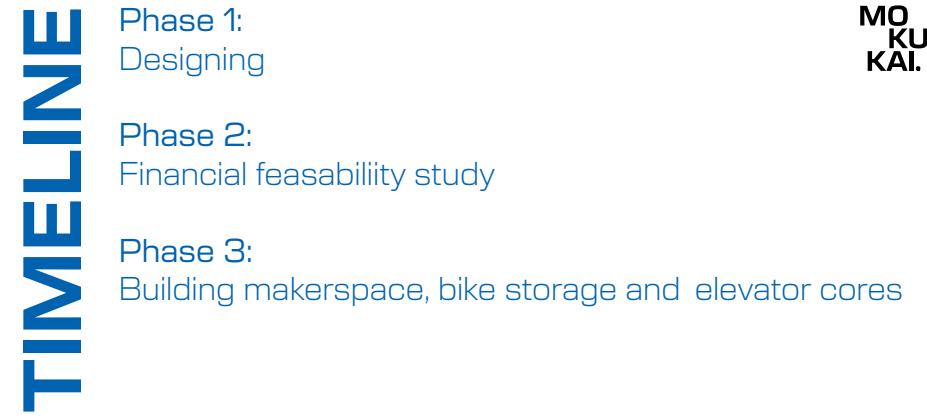
Architect

# TIMELINE

Phase 1:  
Designing

Phase 2:  
Financial feasibility study

Architect, Contractor, Housing Association



<b>TIMELINE</b>	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

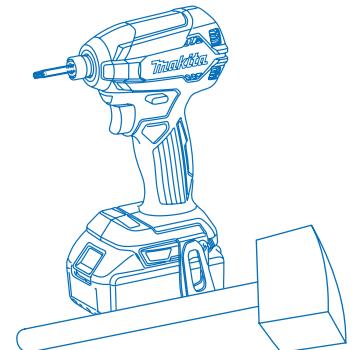
**06**

Recap



RECAP

*So who would like to join?*



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