

Why Build with Steel?



To uncover the reasons some builders choose to use Steel Frames, we spoke to John King Senior at JG King Homes, a pioneer of Steel Frames in residential housing 21 years ago.

🗣️ John King: Over 20 years ago I made the decision to only build with steel frames, and for me it was a simple decision to make. Commercially, steel had been used for many, many years as its strengths and benefits were well known and recognised. By operating our own manufacturing plant we are able to maintain our exacting standards.

Steel doesn't cost much more?

Not when you consider the quality and the many strengths and benefits of building with steel.

What are some of the benefits?

To begin with, termites can't eat steel, which is almost reason enough to build with steel considering the ever-increasing number of termite infected areas throughout Victoria. And because steel is naturally impervious to termites, the frames don't need continual treatment with toxic chemicals, keeping your family safe.

Then there's its inherent safety, as steel won't contribute to a fire. It cannot be ignited by burning embers in a bushfire, and because the frames are earthed it greatly reduces the risk of electrocution.

Then there are the design, manufacturing and construction benefits. Steel can be engineered into almost any shape, giving us almost limitless architectural possibilities. Once the house is constructed, it stays straight and true throughout its life. Steel frames won't twist, warp or rot so walls won't crack, doors and windows won't jam and rooflines won't sag.

I've heard rumours that steel frames are noisy.

A recent CSIRO study noted that most occupants reported absolutely no noise from the frame, and our anecdotal evidence from building over 12,000 homes points to the same conclusion.

It sounds like there are many real benefits and reasons for home-owners to build with steel.

There are indeed, but the benefits don't stop there, and it's not just owners who benefit. Because steel frames and trusses are manufactured to exacting specifications, there is little waste, and of course steel can be recycled, so it's good for the environment too. And construction is a lot easier, allowing for smaller teams and therefore less expense, with the savings passed on to the home-owner.



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