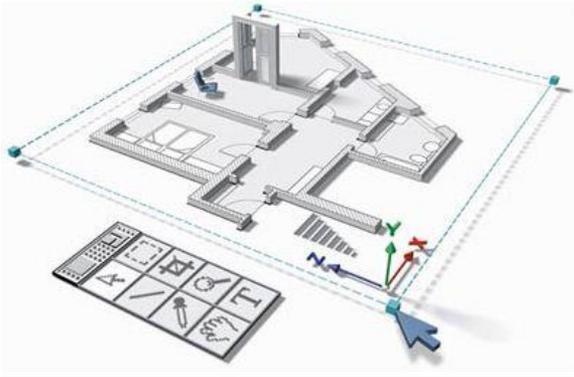




Building construction requires a lot of planning, support, and resources. The following listed below are the fundamental steps for building, in this example, a residential house. Commercial construction will have a similar sequence of activities, but the types and durations of those activities may vary drastically depending on the building type and use.



STEP ONE – FLOOR PLANS

The first step to every house starts off with a floor plan. A solid plan like this digital rendering helps the building process run smoothly and helps you determine what quantity and types of materials will be used during construction.

STEP TWO - FOUNDATION

The foundation most essential component of the house because it supports and outlines the entire house and forms the base for everything else you build. Although the foundation is important, it is typically not seen because it underneath the ground. The foundation, typically concrete is poured in the ground after outline of the house has been excavated.



STEP THREE - FRAMING

Once the foundation has been laid, the rest of the house can begin to take shape. Wood floor joist are attached to the foundation. A sub-floor is attached to the floor joist and wood studs are installed on top of the sub-flooring. Openings for windows and doors are framed in each wall based on the floor plan. After walls are complete, framing for the roof are attached on top of the walls.



STEP FOUR – SHEATHING (WALLS & ROOF)

After the wall and roof framing is completed, it is important to completely enclose the entire house to protect it from outside weather conditions so that you can begin interior finishes as soon as possible. Wood sheathing (typically 4 x 8 sheets of plywood or OSB) is connected to the wall and roof framing to enclose the house.

STEP FIVE - ROOFING

After sheathing is completed at the roof, roofing paper is next, and then the shingles are tacked on. This provides a watertight enclosure at the top of the house. The next step is to provide a watertight enclosure at the exterior walls so that interior finishes can begin.



STEP SIX – FINISHES & FACADE

After sheathing is complete at all the exterior wall, house wrap tacked on and windows and doors to seal the interior of the house from the elements. Interior finishes can now begin and the exterior finish/ façade can now be attached to the exterior of the house such as brick, stone, siding, etc. Once the exterior finish is installed final touch ups are made and the exterior is complete. Now the construction process moves to the inside of the house.





STEP SEVEN – MECHANICAL & ELECTRICAL

After the exterior is finished, you can install electrical wiring through the wood framing for outlets and fixtures. Water and sanitary/vent piping for plumbing and air supply ducts for HVAC systems are installed through wood wall framing as well. Once all the wiring and piping inside the walls are complete.

STEP EIGHT - INSULATION

Insulation is key to keep your house comfortable and energy-efficient in all seasons. Insulation is installed between wood stud framing after all the wiring and piping has been inspected. Expandable spray insulation is applied in between joints around window and door openings to prevent outside air infiltration and inside air escaping. Good insulation and sealing makes heating and cooling your home less expensive in the long run.



STEP NINE – INTERIOR WALLS

Wiring, piping, and insulation are done, you can complete drywall and trim work including interior doors on the interior. Once this is complete, interior finishes can finally begin and the house is nearly complete.





STEP TEN – INTERIOR FINISHES

Drywall is complete, now paint, carpet, tile, wood flooring, base/wall cabinets, countertops, light fixtures, plumbing fixtures, and appliances can be installed. Completing the interior can be exciting, but don't neglect the finishing touches outside your house

STEP ELEVEN -INSPECTIONS

Throughout the construction process and especially towards the end, the house will need to be inspected. There are standard building codes and rules that the new constructed house must adhere to in order to pass inspection. Anything that is not in compliance to the rules must be repaired or even replaced in some cases.



STEP TWELVE - LANDSCAPING

The house is nearly complete and landscaping will be the final touch. Adding trees, shrubs, flower, planting beds, mulch, pavers, sod, etc. around the house will add the design of the house and provide an environment that compliments the look and feel of the house.