



PRODUCT COMPARISON CHART

by HaitiHouse.org

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FlatPackHome™ Permanent Shelter v. Tents & Yurts / Trailer Conversions / Modular Buildings

While there are many options for housing large numbers of displaced persons, typical temporary solutions also become the MOST expensive and impractical to satisfying residents' daily needs. The HaitiHouse™ FlatPackHome™ is **THE BEST CHOICE** for many reasons listed in the comparison here.



FlatPackHome™ Permanent Self-Assembly Shelter
 7'6" x 18' 9" single \$ 3,899 in bulk
 7'6" x 39' double \$ 6,298 in bulk



Tents & Yurts

Typical discounted tent prices:
 10 foot x 20 foot Canvas \$1,150 each

Disadvantages:

- Not permanent shelter/not a long-term solution
- Seasonal use only
- Cost inefficient, lasts only one season
- 3-5 week delivery lead time
- Minimum orders
- Family sized only above \$1,000 price level
- Not fully waterproof or fireproof
- Unsafe, offering no personal protection or privacy
- No security for personal belongings
- Cannot weather any tropical storm
- No floors, causing spread of disease
- Susceptible to insect infestations
- Cramped, unable to keep belongings clean or dry
- Fire hazard when cooking nearby
- Must be constantly replaced
- Difficult to keep secured in the ground
- Ropes and stakes become hazards to children
- Usually made in China / not a US manufacturer

ACTUAL COST for 10 years use:
 \$11,500 (1 tent per year replacement cost)

HUMAN COST: **No safety, security or stability.**

Trailer Conversions

Typical Semi-trailer conversion price:
 8 foot x 53 foot \$40,000 each

Disadvantages:

- Permanent shelter but not a feasible solution
- Foundation possibly required
- Nearly impossible to move once placed
- Requires professional distribution and heavy equipment to recover.
- Not recyclable
- Cost inefficient, extremely expensive
- 5-10 week delivery lead time
- Bulky - requires crane offloading to large rig truck
- Family sized only above \$40,000 price level
- No ventilation or windows - more industrial use
- Offers personal protection and privacy
- Security for personal belongings
- A tropical storm can collapse it as the underlying structure is not designed for winds over 100mph
- Not upgradeable at a later date
- Typically no aesthetic appeal

ACTUAL COST for 10 years use:
 \$40,000 (1 unit with no maintenance)

HUMAN COST: **Unable to secure enough units in a reasonable timeframe to meet needs.**

Modular Buildings

Typical Modular Building price:
 10 foot x 40 foot \$25,000 to 40,000 each

Disadvantages:

- Permanent but expensive /not for large scale in a country with little infrastructure
- Requires professional construction to assemble
- Best suited for dorms, offices, not small houses
- Requires foundations, all utilities in place, not suitable for an underdeveloped nation
- 4-10 week delivery lead time
- Bulky - requires crane offloading to large rig truck
- If stacked, requires extensive second/third story access be built on-site requiring professionals
- Family sized only above \$25,000 price level
- Susceptible to insect infestations and other ailments of apartment complexes
- Typically subject to fire due to proximity of units, use of indoor cooking and lack of suppression
- When stacked only ventilation is on the one end
- Balconies/exit at higher level requires more retrofitting after placement

ACTUAL COST for 10 years use:
 \$25,000 (1 unit with no maintenance)

HUMAN COST: **Unable to secure enough units in a reasonable timeframe to meet needs.**

Advantages:

- Permanent galvanized steel and aluminum clad
 - 30-year rated - will not rot - no fasteners with no leaks
 - Year-round use / relocatable or recycle as needed
 - Cost efficient - Costs \$130/yr for 30 years use
 - 1 week delivery lead time / delivered 16 singles to a cargo container unit / 1,000 lbs. total weight single
 - Can be assembled in 15 minutes with no special knowledge or abilities. Needs a wrench and ladder.
 - No minimum orders / 100,000+units can be manufactured and shipped in limited time frame
 - Family sized / good cross ventilation
 - Fully waterproof or fireproof - treated lumber on the raised floor frame, all seams sealed with modern door and windows
 - Safe, offering personal protection and privacy
 - Security for personal belongings
 - When anchored can resist 130mph winds and is rated Seismic D for earthquake resistance
 - Raised floor prevents spread of disease
 - Impervious to insects and screened windows
 - Keep belongings clean or dry
 - No fire hazard when cooking nearby
 - Upgradeable with plumbing and electric when available in the country's infrastructure
 - Made by a US manufacturer
- ACTUAL COST for 30 years use:
 Single \$3,899 or \$130 per year
- HUMAN COST: **Safe, secure, clean, stable, permanent, affordable, moveable, recyclable, upgradeable later**