

FRAMING THE AMERICAN DREAM

FLOOR TRUSSES

Framing the American Dream conducted two controlled experiments to allow for apples-to-apples framing comparisons. In 1995, and again in 2015, two identical houses were framed side-by-side.

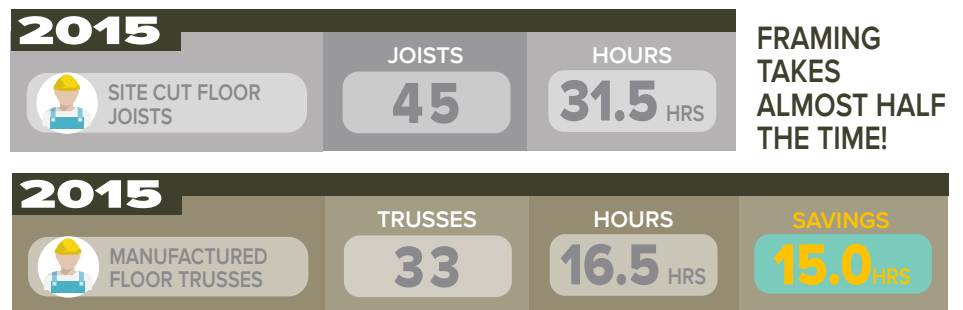


The only difference between the two homes was one house was entirely stick-framed, while the other home was framed using structural components, including roof trusses, wall panels and floor trusses.

What We Learned

According to NAHB, 70 percent of all residential floor systems are constructed on-site using solid-sawn lumber or engineered wood I-joists. However, these experiments clearly indicate there's a better way to frame today's floors that takes less labor and requires less skilled carpentry:

Framing the American Dream data suggests installing floor trusses completes the task of framing a building's floor system in almost half the time, requires less framer skill and experience and ultimately results in a floor system that makes it easier for trades to install their products.



Additional Benefits

One of the factors that contributes to the swift installation of floor trusses is that framers don't need to measure and cut the floor joists on the jobsite. Floor trusses can also bear more load, which means less framing members

need to be installed to complete the floor system.

Floor trusses are built in a controlled manufacturing environment with the help of computer-aided machinery and a rigorous quality control program that ensure each truss is built to the correct and uniform length and depth.