

# Pole Barn Outbuildings

## *small*

**P** Pole Barn structures solve a number of building problems in a resource- and cost-effective as well as aesthetically pleasing way. One of the pitfalls of designing smaller, more energy efficient and space efficient homes is that there is less space for “stuff.” Our solution has been to build economical, un-heated or occasionally conditioned pole barn outbuildings. These structures are intended to extend the size of the living space without increasing the amount of space that is heated and cooled 360 days a year.

Detached pole barn garages can solve problems with indoor air quality caused by attached garages due to benzene and other VOC migration into the home. Detached pole barns can give people a place to work at home that is of comparable quality to their home but separate, less expensive to build, which can be shut down to save energy during times of extreme weather, and has the ability to adapt to different uses over the years. Most importantly pole barns give people who are moving from a larger home to a smaller one a “landing pad for their stuff” which can quickly evolve into delightful project space and even guest accommodations.



This little garden shed has a 10' x 14' main project, storage room with a 6' x 14' front porch area and a 4' overhang at the back to provide shelter for firewood and garden tools..

See the [Blueprints](#)

## *medium*

This garden shed car port has a 20' x 12' project room part of which is partitioned off to make two 4' x 6' closets accessible through the 3' doors at the back of the building.





A sliding barn door opens the workshop up to the car port for really big projects (such as boat building) A loft area above provides a 20' x 12' space for boxes, coolers, skis and canoes.



The interior of the workshop is 12' x 16' with a potting sink and plenty of light.

See the [Blueprints](#)





Larger pole barn outbuildings can take many forms. We've built music and dance studios, pottery and glass blowing studios, a bicycle repair studio, and a guest cottage. A pole barn studio generally will have no more than an inch and a half of rigid insulation in the walls so it gains its energy and resource efficiency by being economical to build and easy to heat for short periods of time and to leave un-heated during times of extreme weather.

*large*

On this project we braced the walls with steel band bracing and wrapped it in Tyvek before installing a single thickness of board and batten siding rather than an inner layer, a foam sandwich layer and an outer layer as is more common.



This insulated glass blowing studio features a sophisticated energy recovery ventilation system to provide fresh air and remove glass smelting fumes.



This guest cottage features radiant floor heat, a fireplace, full bath, and a sleeping loft. Situated in a remote location with no driveway access and no telephone it is used primarily for therapeutic reasons. A rustic retreat far from the chaos of everyday life.

See the [Blueprints](#)

