



DB HOMES

D.B. Homes, Inc.

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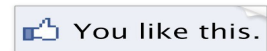
With social networking sites like Facebook growing as a means of information and communication everyday, D.B. Homes doesn't want to miss a beat. To keep our customers and the community informed about everything we are doing, we have joined the fad just as many other growing companies have.

Check out our Facebook page at www.facebook.com/pages/Johnstown-PA/DB-Homes-Inc or by searching DB Homes, Inc. in the Facebook search engine.

Facebook will help to keep us up to date with our customers. Become a fan of DB Homes by adding our fan page to the "likes" section of your profile by simply clicking the "like" button on our page.

When checking out our Facebook profile you will have access to the latest events, news, and photos. You will also be able to read and post testimonials or other comments on our wall and check out our latest commercials in the videos section or just send us a message with questions and comments about our business.

Facebook is a one stop shop for all of your D.B. Homes needs.



Testimonial

Jerry and Amy, Ebensburg, PA

My wife and I would like to start by thanking the entire DB Homes staff for allowing us to build our dream home with their owner/builder program. In order to build the home we always wanted, we decided to tackle some of the phases of construction ourselves. From the very beginning we found ourselves in unfamiliar territory with many unknowns. Whether it was

pointing me in the right direction for a building permit, customizing our floor plan to fit the need of the family, or using their suggested sub-contractors; Every person we dealt with was very knowledgeable and sincere about our product and our satisfaction.

Having been a sales representative in the construction business for years, I can assure you that

building a modular home gives you much more control over the building process while avoiding many of the mid-construction headaches. Not only did my home finish on schedule, but it finished on budget.

Thanks again to everybody for going out of your way to help make our dream come true.

—Jerry and Amy

Inside this issue:

Opt for Energy Star Rated Products	2
Building a Home Vs. Buying a Home	2
Determining a Budget for Your Home	2
Green Building	3
Fall Preventative Home Maintenance	3
DB Homes Third Annual Christmas Story Time	4

Have Lunch on Us:

Visit our website and take The Homeowners Assessment survey. The first 100 surveyors will receive a \$5 gift card to Subway. The quicker you visit the better your chances are to have lunch on us. We appreciate your responses.

1.866.794.2626

www.db-homes.com

Opt for Energy Star Rated Products This Season

D.B. Homes is proud to be an energy star partner. This means our home builders and developers have made a commitment to building our homes to ENERGY STAR performance guidelines. According to the Energy Star website, based on national averages, all Energy Star partners combined in Pennsylvania of all qualified homes built in 2009 have saved an equivalence to 4,665,336 pounds of coal, eliminated emissions from 771 vehicles, planted 1,275 acres of trees and saved the environment 9,149,662 pounds of CO₂.

Even if you do not have an energy star rated home there are other ways to be energy star efficient this season. A great way to do so is to **opt for Energy Star-rated electronics**. They're anywhere from 6% (audio products) to 75% (DVD players) more efficient than non-rated electronics. Take Energy

Star-rated television sets. They use about one-third less energy than their nonrated counterparts.

If you can't live without plasma, consider an Energy Star model for which you'll pay \$18 less per year in operating costs than for a nonrated one. If you use an Energy Star-rated digital cable box (ask your provider if any are available for no charge), you could pay 30% less for energy—an annual savings of about \$8.50.

You can also save money by reducing standby power. The energy that's wasted by electronic devices that are plugged in, but not in use—represents about \$100 per year in the average household's electricity costs, says Energy Star. Assuming the family room represents about 15% of your electricity bill, you could save about \$15 per year

with smart standby practices. Unplug rarely used electronics all together and cluster other appliances, even adapters for cell phones and digital cameras, onto power strips. Then you can fully turn off all attached electronics with one switch.

Unfortunately, some family room electronics, such as set-top boxes and downloading devices like TiVo, can't be turned off, because that would disrupt the digital data-gathering you've programmed them to do. But with a so-called smart power strip (about \$20 to \$40 through online retailers), you can completely turn off your TV while leaving the always-on DVR plugged in.



Building a Home Vs. Buying

Building versus buying is a tough decision in the market. The freedom to make decisions about the details and watch it take shape holds undeniable appeal. When it comes to buying a new home versus building a new home, is one option really better than the other? Not necessarily. It all comes down to preference. Only you can decide which option will work better for you, but here are some reasons why building a new home may be a better option than

buying.

When you build a new home, you'll work with a builder to create a custom home that has all the features you want. You can customize every aspect of your new home down to a T or you can choose from a range

"You can customize every aspect of your new home down to a T or you can choose from a range of already-existing floor plans and features.."

of already-existing floor plans and features. The home building process can take as little as a few months. All in all, building your own home gives you the control of all features and options and gives you knowledge as to how each step in the building process was completed. You will also have the option of using Environmentally sound materials and energy saving features that will both make your conscience feel good and keep more cash in your wallet.

Determining a Budget for Your Home

Today's modular homebuyer has a wide array of financing options. Most mortgage companies make financing a modular home easier than ever and may even have departments or divisions specific to modular home financing. While the financing process can vary slightly from company to company, many new modular home loans are construction-to-permanent loans and follow a general template similar to any new home purchase. The primary purpose of preparing a budget is to understand and control costs.

Beginning with the estimates, one is able to guess the total dollar amount for the style and size of a home on a particular lot. At the very least you should be able to consider if the project is feasible once estimates are made. Based on your projection of costs for material and labor, you should be able to weigh and consider the Design/Build options.



Green Building: A Real Estate Revolution

While much of the U.S. real estate market has been floundering, one area has not seen a dip. Green building now accounts for nearly one-third of new construction in the U.S. The numbers



suggest a revolution is taking place within an industry that is historically slow to change. There are many factors and many players in this move toward green building.

Green Building the practice of creating structures and using processes that are environmentally responsible and resource-efficient throughout a building's life-cycle: from siting to design, construction, operation, maintenance, renovation, and deconstruction. This practice expands and complements the classical building design concerns of economy, utility, durability, and comfort.

Although new technologies are constantly being developed to complement current practices in creating greener

structures, the common objective is that green buildings are designed to reduce the overall impact of the built environment on human health and the natural environment by:

- Efficiently using energy, water, and other resources
- Protecting occupant health and improving employee productivity
- Reducing waste, pollution and environmental degradation.

Checklist: Fall Preventative Home Maintenance



Before the weather grows colder it's important to prepare for the winter months to prevent costly damage. Below are the fall preventative home maintenance steps that every homeowner should follow.

Gutters and Downspouts

- Clean gutters and downspouts frequently throughout fall to prevent build up of leaves. Neglected gutters can lead to wood

rot and pest infestations

- Be sure water is not coming down behind gutters and that all support brackets are secure.
- Pooling can cause damage to foundations, so ensure that water is drained properly

Windows and Doors

- Change summer screens to cool weather storm windows and doors.
- Inspect and repair any loose or damaged window or door frames.
- Prevent drafts and lower heating bills by caulking around windows and doors or installing stripping

Heating Systems

- Replace furnace filter
- check your heating system to ensure optimal performance and discover minor problems before they become costly repairs.
- Clean ducts to better your heating system's efficiency and to reduce household dust.

Plumbing

- Ensure that the pipes are well insulated to prevent freezing and bursting.
- In case pipes do freeze, know ahead of time where the shut off valve is located and how to turn the water off

Chimney and Fireplace

- Fireplaces that are regularly used should have an annual cleaning to prevent dangerous fires.
- Test your fireplace flue for a tight seal when closed.

Landscape and Yardwork

- Now is the best time to fertilize and reseed your lawn as roots are growing deeper to prepare for winter
- Prune trees and shrubs after the leaves turn to encourage healthy growth.



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Check us out on Facebook!

**BUILD YOUR HOME ON A SOLID
FOUNDATION WITH DB HOMES**



**JOIN US FOR THE UPCOMING
EVENT:
CHRISTMAS STORY TIME
4 SESSIONS AVAILABLE.
DETAILS INSIDE!**



www.db-homes.com

*If you would like to be removed from our mailing list, please
call us at 1-866-794-2626 or email: dbhomes@atlanticbb.net*

Upcoming Event: Christmas Story Time

A Third Annual Event From D.B. Homes

DB Homes will be holding our 3rd Annual Christmas Story Time. There will be two evening sessions on Friday, December 10th and one afternoon and one evening session on Saturday December 11th.

Last year each session held about 45 children. As in past years, this year's event will take place in our two-story model home on display. Classic Christmas stories will be read to the children as they gather around our decorated Christmas tree followed by a special appearance by Santa Claus. Each

child will also get pictures with Santa Claus to take home as well as Christmas cookies and a personal gift with their name on it they can unwrap. DB Homes is a Toys for Tots drop off location so anyone wishing to donate this year can come by our office. This event hosted by DB Homes is free so all Toys for Tots donations are greatly appreciated. The past two Christmas Story Time events have been a great success and we hope to keep giving the children of our community something they will remember for years.



General Manager of D.B. Homes, Keith Skowron reads classic Christmas stories to the children.

This event is free to attend, but space is limited. If interested in receiving an invitation, please contact D.B. Homes at 1.866.794.2626 or email: shannon-dbhomes@atlanticbb.net.



Local children get their picture with Santa Claus. December 2009.