

# Home from the Heart

## SURVEY RESULTS

### TYPE OF HOME

Average size of home:

2538 sq.ft.

Range of responses:

1000-10,500 sq.ft.

70% One story

27% Two story

3% More than two story

66% Basement

26% Wheelchair accessible

Average budget: \$198,000

Range of responses:

\$100,000-\$450,000

Exterior style:

38% Country

33% Ranch

24% Traditional

Less than 5%: Bungalow,  
Hexagonal, Craftsman,  
Colonial, Log

### UTILITY ROOM

62% Adjacent to kitchen/  
garage

28% Adjacent to bedrooms

### GARAGE

Number of cars: 2.1

62% Storage/shop

# 2006

### LIVING AREAS

74% Informal great room  
with open living,  
kitchen & dining areas

2% Formally defined  
spaces with separa-  
tion of functions

24% Combination of formal  
spaces and great room

Number of bedrooms: 3.3

Number of baths: 2.5

Number of "en-suites": 1.5  
(bedrooms with private  
baths)

### KITCHEN

17% Gourmet style kitchen,  
rich in amenities

66% Full function kitchen  
with ample features

17% Efficient kitchen with  
focus on space saving  
and multiple functions

91% Open to family room

42% Adjacent to garage

### OWNERS' SUITE

Best location:

82% Main floor

16% Upper floor

72% Isolated from other  
bedrooms

20% Adjacent to other  
bedrooms

### EXTRAS

Interior:

74% Fireplace/woodstove

54% Vaulted ceilings

35% Skylights

42% Computer center

11% Wet/Service bar

11% Swimming pool

Exterior:

74% Front porch

78% Deck/patio

46% Screened porch

16% Courtyard

23% Fireplace

26% Spa/hot tub

23% Water feature

### HOUSEHOLD

Number of people: 3.1

Age of respondent: 49

86% Plan to build a home

14% Plan to buy a home

Timeframe: 3.1 years

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## Survey reveals modern dream home

Finding answers to questions is almost always a satisfying proposition, and right now we are very satisfied.

A couple months ago we asked readers to describe their dream homes by filling out Associated Designs' Home from the Heart 2006 survey. Participants from all over the United States and Canada responded, and many included letters and sketches. Of these, nearly 90 percent actually intend to build a home within three years. These are clearly people who've put a great deal of thought into how they want to live.

Here is some of what they told us:

Ranch and country are still the two most sought-after exterior styles, and the average size home people want is about 2500 square feet. Seventy percent prefer a single-level home, though nearly the same percentage asked for a basement. Only 25 percent opted for wheelchair accessibility, but a much higher percentage of those who included letters or sketches expressed interest in this option.

A reader from Nebraska was clearly in the majority when he noted, "I would like the major area of the house to utilize the 'great room' concept." Almost all who responded wanted their kitchen open to the family room, while more than 70 percent saw that as part of a "great room" concept, with the kitchen open to both dining and living areas.

Almost the same percentage of readers preferred having the owners' suite well-isolated from secondary bedrooms, and 80 percent wanted that suite located on the ground floor.

Other much-desired features include: a fireplace or woodstove, the utility room close to the kitchen, a front porch, a deck or patio, and extra space in the garage for a workshop and storage.

"What a fun time my wife and I have had with this survey," remarked a man from Oklahoma who sent us a detailed letter. He also noted that both of them would be very interested in the survey results.

So here they are!