

# skyloft view cupola

OUR OPTIONAL SKYLOFT IS SUSPENDED FROM THE DOME FRAMEWORK PUTTING YOU AT EYE LEVEL WITH THE CUPOLA WINDOWS.

BREATHTAKING VIEWS TO THE HORIZON.

THE ULTIMATE DOME HOME OBSERVATION PLATFORM-WITH OR WITHOUT TELESCOPE. A RETREAT SPACE TO END ALL.

THE SKYLOFT IS ACTUALLY A VERY SIMPLE STRUCTURE TO BUILD. WE SET UP A VERTICAL STRUT IN EACH CORNER OF THE TOP PENTAGON. THE ROOF STRUTS ARE ATTACHED TO THE TOP OF THESE POSTS AND THE FLOOR JOISTS TO THE BOTTOM.

THE FLOOR JOISTS AND ROOF STRUTS ARE EACH JOINED AT THE CENTER TO A NATURAL SPACES HUB UNIT FORMING AN EXTREMELY STRONG AND RIGID CONNECTION.

ACCESS TO THE SKYLOFT CAN BE BY A STAIR/LADDER OR A DISAPPEARING TYPE STAIR. SMALL SPIRAL STAIRS WILL ALSO WORK.

WINDOW SEATS ARE USUALLY SET UP UNDER ONE OR TWO OF THE WINDOWS.

WINDOWS DO NOT HAVE TO BE PUT ON ALL SIDES - THERE IS USUALLY A CHIMNEY FLUE COMING UP ONE SIDE OR MAYBE YOU WANT TO BLOCK OUT A CERTAIN VIEW. FOR SECURITY AND AIR FLOW, A RAILING IS BUILT BETWEEN FLOOR & DOME.

OTHER DOME COMPANIES HAVE TO SUPPORT THEIR CUPOLA FROM BELOW. OURS SEEMS TO FLOAT WHILE BEING STRONG ENOUGH TO SAFELY SUPPORT AS MANY PEOPLE AS CAN PHYSICALLY FIT IN THE CUPOLA.



# interior panels

THE CHOICE OF THE INTERIOR PANEL SETS THE WHOLE MOOD OF YOUR DOME INTERIOR - FROM EARLY RUSTIC TO MODERN CABIN TO HIGH TECH SCANDINAVIAN.

PICTURES DON'T DO DOME INTERIORS JUSTICE. YOU HAVE TO SEE THE INSIDE AND PREFERABLY WITH THE TYPE OF PANEL YOU INTEND TO INSTALL.

MOST NATURAL SPACES INTERIORS ARE FINISHED WITH 1X6 OR 1X8 TONGUE AND GROOVE, V-JOINED BOARDS. SPRUCE IS THE LEAST EXPENSIVE MATERIAL (SHOWN RIGHT) WITH OTHER CHOICES BEING PINE, CEDAR, BIRCH, ASH, REDWOOD, OAK, ELM, MAPLE, WALNUT OR WHATEVER YOU WANT.

WE'VE LEARNED THAT WHEN YOU DO THE DOME TRIANGLES IN WOOD, YOU SHOULD PUT SHEETROCK ON THE RISER WALL AND ON INTERIOR WALLS TO PROVIDE CONTRAST. IF NOT, YOU TEND TO LOSE THE DRAMATIC IMPACT OF THE WOOD TRIANGLES.

THE TRIANGLES ARE FABRICATED IN THE SHOP, CUT INTO TRIANGLES AND A BACKER BOARD ADDED TO MAKE THEM ONE PIECE. WHEN THEY ARE PUT UP ON THE DOME, A TRIM PIECE IS PUT ON OVER THE JOINT, ALLOWING FOR EXPANSION OR CONTRACTION AND HIDING OTHER IMPERFECTIONS IN THE JOINT. WE ALSO SHOW YOU, THE OWNER-BUILDER, HOW TO LAYOUT AND CUT THE INTERIOR PANELS.

YOU'LL BE SURPRISED AT THE LOW COST FOR THESE PANELS, ESPECIALLY USING SPRUCE OR PINE.

THE PICTURES ON THESE PAGES MAY NOT ACCURATELY DEPICT THE TONE OF OUR INTERIOR PANELS. SPRUCE HAS A VERY LIGHT TONE CREATING A BRIGHT INTERIOR. IN OUR OFFICE DOME WE HAVE WIPED THE PANELS WITH A WHITE STAIN AND THEN APPLIED A SATIN FINISH, CLEAR, NON-YELLOWING, LOW V.O.C. SEALER - A NATURAL WOOD WHITE INTERIOR OPTION TO SHEETROCK.

OUR INTERIOR PANEL SYSTEMS DO NOT REQUIRE ANY BRACING. THEY ARE ENGINEERED TO FREE-SPAN EACH TRIANGLE.

IF REGULAR SHEETROCK IS TO BE USED, EACH TRIANGLE WOULD REQUIRE 2X4 BRACING AT 24 O.C. TO SUPPORT THE SHEETROCK.

BEFORE YOU DO THAT, TAKE ANOTHER LOOK AT OUR WOOD TRIANGLES.

