

Wood Versus Aluminum... Which is Better?

The wood versus aluminum argument is almost as old as the RV industry. Which type of framing is best depends entirely on how you use your RV. At Teton Homes®, we specialize in luxury fifth wheels designed with the full-time RVer in mind. Let us examine some of the advantages of wood framed structures.

TEMPERATURE CONTROL

In full-time RVing, temperatures can vary greatly from extreme hot to extreme cold. **Wood has insulation properties** that help maintain a constant and comfortable interior temperature, no matter what the weather.

Aluminum conducts and transfers hot and cold from outside to inside, making heating and cooling systems work harder with less efficiency.

CONDENSATION

Rapid temperature changes and extreme weather where interior and exterior temperatures vary greatly cause **condensation in aluminum framing**. Because wood maintains temperature far better than aluminum, **there is no condensation with wood framing**.

WEIGHT

Overall weight is important. In small RVs, aluminum framing IS lighter than wood. Large, complex fifth wheels require intensive framing and support to maintain overall integrity. That's why, in units over 32 feet in length, **wood and aluminum framing weigh virtually the same**.

DRY ROT

Early manufacturing methods required many seams in RV exteriors, allowing water to get into framing and cause dry rot. Today's construction methods, including lamination, smooth siding and single piece impermeable vinyl roof, **virtually eliminate the possibility of water entering wood framing and have made dry rot obsolete**.

STRUCTURAL FATIGUE

Extended road travel can cause fatigue of overall structure, particularly exterior walls. When combined with today's wall vacuum bonding techniques, wood and metal framing offer equal overall strength. However, **metal framing can develop costly and dangerous stress cracks** at welds and can transfer stress from one joint to another, causing failure. This cannot happen with wood framing.

INSULATION

All RVs are framed with wood, aluminum or steel and insulated with either block foam or blanket fiberglass. **Wood framing enhances insulation properties** because it does not transfer temperatures like metal.

In reviewing the list above it is clear that wood framing is the best choice for our products.

For more information see page 10 for actual construction details.

Friendships that Last a Lifetime

As a Teton® owner, you're invited to join Teton® Club International (TCI), a club designed exclusively for owners of our products. Members have numerous opportunities to enjoy the camaraderie of others who share a love of RVing and appreciation for the quality and beauty of Teton Homes®.

TCI offers such organized activities as an annual National Rally and numerous regional rallies which features fabulous food, exciting excursions and educational seminars by Teton Homes® service staff and vendors of the company's RV components. You'll also receive the TCI newsletter filled with helpful tips and information about our products as well as news concerning upcoming trips and rallies.



To learn more, contact:
www.tetoners.org

