

Engineer's Thoughts

The Yurt Cabin is a hard-sided structure that is much more durable and lower in maintenance than a typical soft-sided yurt. We have designed the Yurt-Cabin to be easily erected, while providing a long-lasting building. When compared to typical yurts, the rigid walls allow us the ability to design a building that is more rigid and will therefore undergo less movement than a soft-sided yurt. One example of why this is desirable is it allows us to install glass windows because we know they won't crack during high-wind events.

We are able to understand the structural behavior of these buildings in a more predictable way due to the rigid nature of each component.

One of the main differences with a soft-sided yurt, which is an advantage from a structural standpoint, is that the floor system is integral to the structure. We have designed an efficient foundation anchoring system that minimizes cost, site disturbance and therefore installation time. Overall the Yurt-Cabin, while intended as a temporary structure in most cases, is actually closer to being like most people's homes, from a structural point of view.

Building officials are more likely to view a Yurt-Cabin as a structure they are familiar with. The wood walls and integral floor system mean that the building is designed as a single unit and not as separate parts, such as with a soft-sided yurt where the deck is designed to carry the yurt and other loads while the yurt has been design without a specific floor system. Permitting a Yurt-Cabin should be easier due to its all-in-one design.

Another advantage of the Yurt-Cabin compared to a soft-sided yurt is its superior insulation options and higher thermal mass, both contributing to a more efficient and comfortable interior space. The Yurt-Cabin's walls can be insulated up to R-9.7 (nearly 150% of a standard yurt) and the roof insulated up to R-13.7 (250% of a standard yurt) where it really counts. The higher insulation coupled with the thermal mass of wood framed walls and ceiling means temperature swings are moderated and heat is retained longer in the structure itself.

Overall, the Yurt-Cabin is closer to a conventional structure than its competition due to its wood construction. This translates to a living space that is more familiar to occupants with a feeling of solidity and permanence not typically associated with temporary structures. Flexibility of interior finishes allows for a customized space tailored to your needs and desires.