



Site sizing

The design and fabrication of a timber frame needs to happen in conjunction with other elements of the building project and in collaboration with the architect, project manager and builder or main contractor.

We need a few specific but critical dimensions in order to start the design process and these will normally be taken from the architects drawings. With the overall length, width, height and the depth of the proposed roof build up (this is what you're proposing to put on top of the frames roof structure) we know the size of the space into which we need to design the frame.

Having these at an early stage means that our proposed designs fit with your overall scheme and prevents numerous design iterations and unnecessary costs.

If your builder and us are working to the same drawings it means that we can design and fabricate the frame whilst your project continues to progress and by the time the foundations are in place we're ready to come to site and erect the frame, often in a matter of days. Any changes to the key dimensions will normally be notified to us by the architect or builder, either of which can control the issue of updated drawings.

Occasionally customers ask if we can take the dimensions we need from the site. We're here to help where we can but if we were to do this it would significantly delay the arrival of the frame on site because we would have to wait for the foundations to be in place before we could take the dimensions, start the design, get your approval of it, order timber and wait for it to arrive in our yard, fabricate the frame and only then erect it on your site.

In addition many people engage an architect with a contract using the RIBA (Royal Institute of British Architects) or in Scotland RIAS (Royal Incorporation of Architects in Scotland) [Plan for work stages](#). This means for example that under stage J: Mobilisation, the architect is responsible for issuing production information to the contractor. So you don't want to be paying a contractor to do something that you're already paying your architect to do.

More and more these days your builder, architect, engineer and sub-contractors will work from the same CAD drawings, often using an electronic 3D model to take dimensions from which ensures that when we come to site the timber frame fits perfectly into place.

Sometimes we will progress the frame design based on the intended site dimensions and then at the request of the architect or client, visit the site just to ensure that the foundations have been built as expected or to work with the architect and builder if potential issues with overall sizing have been identified.

Whatever happens we're committed to working with all the parties on a project to achieve the right outcome for you so if you have any questions please don't hesitate to [contact](#) us.