



Photo Business Guide

Glossary & Abbreviations

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Abbreviations

Term	Description
1L	One level building
1 1/2	One and one half level (dormers)
2L	Two levels
1G	One car garage
A/C	Air conditioning
B	Basement
BIG	Built-in garage (garage with living space)
Bi-level	Steps up to main level from front door
CP	Car port
D	Deck
EP	Enclosed porch
FP	Fire place
IG	In-ground pool
OP	Open porch
SF	Single Family
SLOPE	Home build on an incline

Glossary

Term	Description
Apartment	A set of rooms used as a dwelling by one person or one family.
Atrium	A usually skylighted central area, often containing plants, in some modern buildings, especially of a public or commercial nature
Attic	A story or room directly below the roof of a building, often used for storage
Awning window	A window frame having one or more sashes hinged at the top and swinging outward from the bottom of the window
Balcony	A platform that projects from the wall of a building and is surrounded by a railing, balustrade, or parapet
Balustrade	A railing at the side of a staircase or balcony to prevent people from falling
Basement	The lowest story of a building, usually below ground level
Bay window	A large window or series of windows projecting from the outer wall of a building and forming a bay in the room
Bidet	A bathroom fixture of french origin, usually with spigots, used for bathing the genital areas
Breezeway	A roofed passageway open on the sides used for connecting two buildings like for instance a house and a garage
Butterfly roof	A roof that resembles the wings of a butterfly. Has a shape which has two surfaces that rise from the center to the eaves with a valley in the center
Cantilever	A rigid construction extending horizontally well beyond its vertical support. Is used as a structural element of a bridge or a building foundation
Carport	An open-sided shelter for a vehicle and is usually formed by a roof projecting from the side of a building
Casement windows	A window with a hinged sash that swings in or out like a door. It can be aside-hung, top-hung, or occasionally a bottom-hung sash
Ceiling	The overhead interior surface of a room

Term	Description
Chair rail	A molding on an interior wall to prevent the backs of chairs from damaging the wall
Chandelier	A branched, decorative lighting fixture suspended from a ceiling and contains a number of bulbs or candles
Clerestory window	A vertical window used for daylighting. It is usually mounted in a roof structure or high in a wall
Condominium	A form of housing tenure where the residents owns a specific part of the interior (apartment) and the common areas are controlled by the association of owners
Crawl space	An area accessible only by crawling and having a clearance less than human height.
Facade	Generally one side of the exterior of a building. Often the front, but sometimes the sides and rear of a building
Flagstone	A flat slab of stone used as a paving material
Flat	An apartment or set of rooms on one floor forming a complete living unit
Foyer	A vestibule or entrance hall in a house or apartment and the lobby of a theater or a hotel
Furring	Strips of wood attached to a wall or other surface in order to provide an even support for lath or to provide an air space between the wall and plasterwork
Gable	The triangular portion of a wall between the edges of a sloping roof
Porch	An exterior appendage to a building, forming a covered approach or vestibule to a doorway
Roof	The external upper covering of a house or other building
Spanish style	
Stack	A vertical waste pipe or vent pipe serving a number of floors
Stoop	A small porch or platform leading to the entrance of a house or building
Story	A full set of rooms on the same floor or level of a building

Term	Description
Stucco	Used as a coating for walls and ceilings and for decoration of less appealing construction materials
Terrazzo	A mosaic flooring or paving composed usually of marble or colored stone. Polished when in place
Tile roof	A roof made of fired clay tiles
Townhouse	A house usually built in an urban area and with several floors to make a smaller foot print.