

Pit Houses

Pit houses are partially built into the ground. They historically provided warmth and shelter during the winter season for various Indigenous peoples in the Plateau region. While they are no longer common dwellings, they remain culturally important.

Advantages of pit house construction:

- Fire-resistant
- Excellent thermal insulation.

Potential drawbacks:

- Risk of overheating, mold, and poor air quality due to poor ventilation.

Wildfire



Fire-resistant and can be further fire-proofed with steel roofing

Moisture & Flooding



Must be well-ventilated. Stagnant air can lead to mold growth.

Windy



Natural protection due to being underground.

Extreme temperatures



Good thermal insulation aids in heat retention.

Seismic



Reinforcements needed through bracing or panels.

Recent information about the cost of construction pit houses in similar climates as BC's is unavailable. Estimates may be available through local suppliers.

