

# Strong & Affordable

## FACT SHEET: CONSTRUCTION STRENGTH & WIND STANDARDS

Manufactured homes are constructed according to a code administered by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD Code). The HUD Code is a stringent series of construction and safety standards and regulations that ensure that manufactured homes are superior to mobile homes. The name “mobile homes” refers to homes built before 1976, when the HUD code was implemented. Since 1976, they have been called manufactured homes, constructed in a controlled factory environment and built to the HUD Code. These federal standards regulate manufactured housing design and construction, strength and durability, transportability, fire resistance, energy efficiency and quality.

Manufactured homes are built to the Manufactured Home Construction and Safety Standards (HUD Code) and display a red certification label on the exterior of each transportable section. The label certifies that it has been designed, constructed, tested, and inspected to comply with federal standards.

Manufactured homes are as safe as traditional homes during a storm, and in hurricane zones, the standards for manufactured homes are more stringent than regional and national building codes for site-built homes.

In areas prone to hurricane-force winds (Wind Zones II and III), the standards for manufactured homes are equivalent to current regional and national building codes for site-built homes. Manufactured homes are designed and constructed to withstand wind speeds of 150 miles per hour in Wind Zone 2 and 163 miles per hour in Wind Zone 3.

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Today's manufactured homes are built with the same building materials as site-built homes but in a controlled factory environment where the quality of construction is superior to what can be built on-site. HUD's building code for manufactured housing regulates the design and construction, strength and durability, transportability, fire resistance, energy efficiency and overall quality of a home. It also sets standards for the heating, plumbing, air-conditioning, thermal and electrical systems. The HUD Code homes also adhere to a thorough inspection system that takes place at each step during the home construction process in the factory. There are major benefits to having a home built in a factory: Consumers benefit from the technological advancements and cost savings associated with the factory-built process.

- There is less waste in the factory process than with site-built homes.
- All aspects of the construction process are quality controlled and inspected per HUD's rigorous standards.
- The weather does not interfere with construction, causing costly delays and warping or damaging building materials.
- Technicians, craftsmen and assemblers are on the same team and professionally supervised. Inventory is better controlled and materials are protected from theft and weather-related damage.
- Construction materials, as well as interior features and appliances, are purchased in volume for additional savings.