

TAUNTON'S

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DECEMBER 2004
NO. 7 \$5.99 CAN \$7.99





Sitting in a meadow adjacent to Washington's North Cascades National Park, this 900-square-foot cabin is used on weekends for a variety of winter and summer sports.

Inside the great indoors



Native Douglas fir sheathes the cabin's ceiling, and yellow plaster covers the walls. The concrete floor makes it easy to sweep up tracked-in dirt and snow. A dining table is steps away from the basic but complete kitchen (below).



Sliding barn doors close off the built-in bed on the first floor. Electric radiant heat is embedded in the concrete floors.

The Turner family's isolated cabin in Washington state is as much a doorway to the great outdoors as it is shelter. Seattle architect Tom Lenchek, who designed the structure, says, "A lot of design time and a lot of the budget was put into the wall of glass and sliding French doors that looks across the meadow to Flagg Mountain in the distance."

The building is constructed with SIPs—structural insulated panels, which are made of sheets of particle board adhered to a core of insulating foam. For the most part, the cabin is one large space with a full kitchen and a bath. A ladder leads to the sleeping lofts at each end, which are connected by a bridge.

On the gable end opposite the dining area, a built-in bed with drawers below serves as the master quarters. Large sliding doors can be pulled across the area, providing a little bit of privacy from those sleeping in the lofts above.

—Jefferson Kalle



To learn more, turn to the back cover.

Communing with nature

Brent and Boo Turner asked Seattle architect Tom Lenchek to design a remote cabin for them and their son, deep in the woods near Washington's North Cascades National Park. Depending on the weather, it's a three-to-four-hour drive from their weekday home, but they usually make the trip twice a month for kayaking, mountain biking, snowshoeing, or cross-country skiing. • The cabin will sleep six comfortably, but Brent Turner says, "We've had as many as 12 people bunking here at one time. It's pretty cozy." • Along with all the outdoor sports, the area is a mecca for wildlife watching. He once saw a cougar walking on the dirt road. "People rarely see the 150-pound cats," he says. "This place is all about privacy—for us and for the full-time, four-legged residents."

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