



TEACH Passiv



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FACT SHEET No. 3

The Passivhaus Design Team

This Fact Sheet (No. 3) details the team you will need in order to build an ultra-low energy home to the Passivhaus standard and includes some background reading to get you started.

I would highly recommend 'The Passivhaus Handbook' by Janet Cotterell and Adam Dadeby that details the Passivhaus methodology and process; they recommend (of which I also agree) that:

"...someone in the design team is properly trained in Passivhaus principles and methodology" and that all team members:

"...need to be committed to the concept..."

Therefore in order to achieve good design I would highly recommend appointing a registered architect; in the UK you can check whether your architect is registered at <http://www.arb.org.uk/> (the Architects Registration Board) and in Ireland you can check whether your architect is registered at http://riai.ie/register/the_register_of_architects/ (The Royal Institute of Architects of Ireland).

You then have a choice of working with an architect who is also a Certified Passivhaus 'Designer' or with an architect without previous Passivhaus experience but with a separate appointment for a Certified Passivhaus 'Consultant'. The exam for Designer and Consultant is the same with the only difference that only professional backgrounds are suitable for the Passive House Designer qualification.

You can check the register of Passivhaus Consultants/Designers at: <http://www.passivhausplaner.eu/mitgliederdatenbank.php>

The Passivhaus Trust (<http://www.passivhaustrust.org.uk>) is the UK's leading organisation working to promote and protect the Passivhaus standard and the Passive House Association of Ireland (<http://www.phai.ie>) fulfils the same role in Ireland.

Other team members such as Structural Engineers also need to be fully onboard with Passivhaus principles and I know of one Chartered Structural Engineer in the UK who is also a Passivhaus Designer (David Sharpe), the role of the Structural Engineer is important as one of the key elements of Passivhaus design is thermal bridge free design where structural elements can compromise this aspect.

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