

Insulated Concrete Form



The Decision

Simon and Marie bought a plot in a great location, with plans to demolish the existing chalet bungalow and build a brand new home. They were limited by planning constraints to build within the footprint of the old dwelling so they were looking for ways to maximise their floor space. The couple also wanted a house that was well built, energy efficient and would stand the test of time. Finally, it was important for them to make the most of the beautiful views to the rear by installing three large bi-folding doors and a large picture window.

In the course of their research, Marie came across Insulated Concrete Forms (ICF). This building method fitted their requirements perfectly because thinner external walls gave them a greater floor area internally. InBuild was selected to carry out the work, with technical support provided by the manufacturer, ICF Tech.



The Build Process

Simon was amazed by the speed of construction. Once the foundations were in place, the first course of ICF was laid in one day and the concrete was poured the following afternoon. After the floor had been installed it took about a week to build to first floor level. No lintels were required above the windows, with support being formed by steel reinforced concrete. It was relatively simple therefore to install a large, picture window with triple sided top arch. ICF provided an excellent base for a mesh and render finish, with face bricks used on the external chimney breast and to form a plinth around the base of the walls to provide the character they wanted.



The Result

The finished house looks like a traditionally built brick and block property, with pretty dormer windows at the front and a characterful oak porch. However, Simon and Marie's new family home has many additional qualities with finished wall U values of 0.19W/m²K. The properties of ICF mean that the walls are stronger, drier, fire retardant, waterproof and more durable than standard masonry walls.



We are delighted with the end product; we have achieved a superior build quality with ICF as well as excellent thermal and acoustic benefits. The house is incredibly quiet, which means that we are undisturbed by the dawn chorus every morning! The construction process was smooth and quick and we were able to incorporate all the design features that we had planned.



For more information contact InBuild at www.inbuild.co.uk or call us on

01268 724455

