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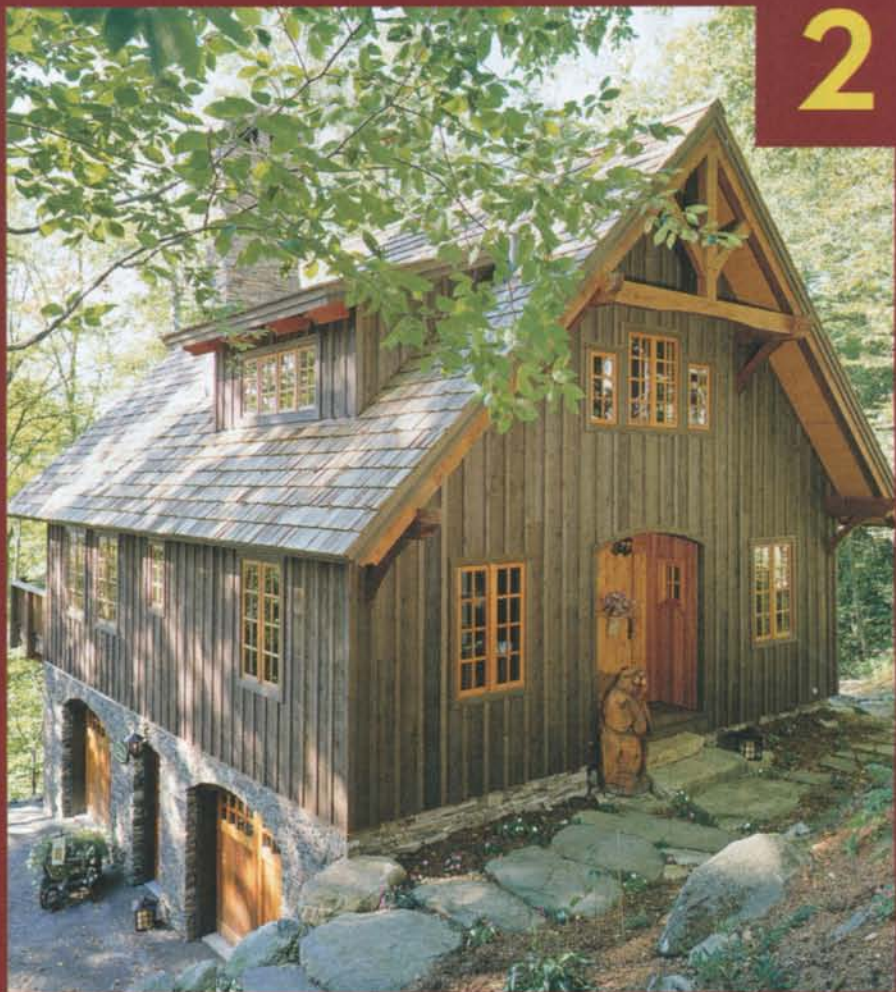
3rd Annual Floorplan Design Contest

When you see as many floorplans as we do, it's fair to say that they tend to run together a bit. But there are always a few that stand out. The arrangement of windows, doors and walls resonate with possibilities and make us stop flipping the pages so quickly. The following plans did just that. Our picks range from a cozy cottage that tops out at a mere 1,600 square feet to a 6,400-square-foot castle. However, size wasn't the dealmaker or breaker. Rather, the surprises we found within each space (staircase tower, pantry that manages to add architectural interest on the exterior, and so on) are what won us over. And we think you'll love them, too.

PRODUCED BY RACHEL MACHACEK • FLOORPLAN ILLUSTRATIONS BY CHRIS DARMON



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Sometimes there's just no need to get radical. A simple plan can offer just as much as a design with hairpin turns along the footprint and hips and valleys on the roofline. Timberpeg knew this when conceiving of the Hawk Mountain, and within a humble 1,600 square feet, they created a livable design that provides just enough. The trick was to keep the space open without sacrificing privacy, which can be challenging in smaller homes. The front entry gently opens to a hallway, which filters movement past a lower-level bedroom to the back of the house where all the action is. There are no dividing walls, but strategically placed architectural elements, such as the island and hearth, determine how the room will breathe and ultimately flow with furniture and people. Upstairs, a small study tucked into the stairs tempers the seclusion of the master domain, and tops off the quiet nuances of this design.

—Rachel Machacek

Hawk Mountain • 1,627 square feet



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