

Quotes to Ponder

Pleasure in the job puts perfection in the work.

Aristotle

Economics is extremely useful as a form of employment for economists.

John Kenneth Galbraith

Far better it is to dare mighty things, to win glorious triumphs even though checkered by failure, than to rank with those poor spirits who neither enjoy nor suffer much because they live in the gray twilight that knows neither victory nor defeat.

Theodore Roosevelt

We make a living by what we get, we make a life by what we give.

Sir Winston Churchill

Remember not only to say the right thing in the right place, but far more difficult still, to leave unsaid the wrong thing at the tempting moment.

Benjamin Franklin

Nothing great was ever achieved without enthusiasm.

Ralph Waldo Emerson

One of the great mistakes that can be made by a man of my age is to get involved in athletic competition with children-- unless, of course, they are under six. And even then, stay away from hide-and-seek.

Bill Cosby

Ambionse Really is Simple to Use

Usually soaring above the clouds rather than sawing on a jobsite, airline pilot Andrew Ridling has taken on the challenge of building his own home. Even though he was a novice in terms of "real" construction, his experience shows that really, anyone can build in Ambionse.

After he spotted a project in California being built from these 'big white blocks', he decided that insulated concrete formwork was the only solution for his home north of Auckland. The solid benefits were plainly obvious to him, so after talking with those US builders and doing some local research, he chose Ambionse as the clear winner.

He had to begin building the Ambionse walls on his own when his builders were delayed on other projects. This proved not to be as a major issue as initially considered.

Obviously there is going to be a learning curve with any new technique or material, even more so when building is not your trade. In this case, that curve was easily tackled and the walls went up without any major complications. When the builders arrived on site, they found that the timber internal walls could easily be connected to the solid Ambionse walls.



Ridling says that the challenges experienced during the construction will be a distant memory when the family moves in, as he will relax in the confidence that they will be living in a solid, secure and healthy home. He also loves the sound insulation properties.

"There is nothing that compares to what Ambionse provides" he says.

He will definitely use Ambionse again - once he is able to convince his wife that they should repeat the building process.

Corner of the house under construction showing the new straight blocks match perfectly with the older corner blocks



How Does Ambionse Stack Up?

One of the most asked questions about Ambionse is how it compares cost-wise to other forms of construction. Based on figures from the 2005 Rawlinsons NZ Construction Handbook we have updated the cost comparisons on our website. These allow for total wall construction from painted internal linings to painted exterior (labour and materials with rates averaged across the country). The website has a more extensive list, but here is a selection of the comparisons:

Wall Construction	Average Cost (\$/m ²)
90mm Clay Bricks on Timber frame	\$228.00
190 Series Ambionse Plastered & Gib-lined	\$251.60
4.5mm F/Cement Sheet & Solid Plaster on Timber Frame	\$254.50
70mm Clay Bricks and Plaster on a Timber Frame	\$262.75
Strapped & Lined 150mm Tilt Slab	\$302.92

Website Updates

The Ambionse website is constantly being updated to reflect the new ICF information as it comes available. Also as new Ambionse literature is published, it is added to the "Downloads" page.

A recent addition is some detailed instructions showing how to construct curved walls of any radius.

You can also find all the archived "AmbionseSay" newsletters to ensure that your collection is complete.

See www.ambionse.co.nz for the full information.

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