

Why is Europe so ahead in green home building?

Green home building is very popular in the United States today, but many people do not know that Europeans have been building green homes for decades. We have many technologies that are just emerging in the United States that seem to be new and innovative...they are not. Green home building is usually discussed in such a way that people marvel about these new technologies, but they are really only new to us.

For example, in Europe, a substance called Autoclave Aerated Concrete, or AAC for short, has been used in constructing buildings for over two decades. According to GreenHomeBuilding.com, this substance is fire proof, highly insulating, and lightweight. This means that it can be easily transported in larger quantities, which will consume less fuel. Additionally, AAC is made of water, sand, cement, lime, and aluminum powder. The main ingredient in AAC is air, which makes up over eighty percent of its composition. The most important benefit is the fact that its production does not produce any byproducts. This material has been used by builders in Germany for almost one hundred years, but was only introduced in the United States in 1996, and it is not yet widely accepted.

An additional green home building material that is used widely in Europe but not in the United States is the Wood Fiber Board. These boards are made from wood chip waste produced by sawmills. According to GreenHomeBuilding.com, these boards are free of allergens and they do not emit any toxins during their manufacture. They are very inexpensive to produce, and they are totally compostable. But, we do not use those very much here in the United States. We like to cut down new trees to make new boards. We do not like using what we already have to make something new.

Europe is by far more advanced than we are when it comes to green home building practices. They have been doing these things for about one hundred years, so for Europeans, there is nothing new or innovative about green home building; it is a way of life. We are in the right mind set to become equal in greenness to Europe, but I just hope it is not too late. More articles [Green home design ...](#) [Green home plans ...](#) [Building a green house ...](#)

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