



Compared with traditional building methods, light gauge steel (LGS) provides a number of important benefits, and at Central Steel Framing, we make it easy for all builders to take advantage of these benefits to grow their business.

LGS framing is easy to work with, straight, stable and delivers an excellent finish. It is manufactured using computer-generated technology, so is extremely accurate - this means contractors benefit from faster build times, fewer call-backs, lower total costs and vastly reduced wastage.

Here are 10 reasons why you should be building with steel now.

The benefits of steel construction are significant. To get things rolling along, we have put together this comparison so you can make a judgement call on how light steel construction weighs up against timber framing from a builder's perspective.

1. Steel is faster and more efficient

Light steel framing is manufactured using steel roll forming machines that deliver pinpoint precision. This means that all framing components are dimensionally accurate. The result is minimal rework. With more precise construction methods, you get faster build times.

2. Steel wastage is up to 10x less than timber

Based on a US study, typical timber construction wastage is about 20%. With light gauge steel, wastage is just 2% - a ten-fold reduction, which adds

up to considerable cost savings. SCI Studies proved that offsite light steel modular construction makes waste reductions of up to 70% possible.

3. Steel is up to 100% recyclable

It is not just reduced wastage that is important; it is the environmental impact of what happens to waste. Unlike treated timber, steel is 100% recyclable.

4. Steel is stronger and lighter

Timber used in framing construction weighs three times more than its thin-gauge, high-tensile steel equivalent. Because it is lighter, LGS is safer and



easier to move around on site, and transportation costs less.

5. Steel is lower cost

Steel framing is significantly faster to construct, so resource costs for labour are reduced. The improved accuracy of LGS framing means less re-work, less call-backs and less wastage.

6. Steel is easy to work with

Most Kiwi builders who have worked with timber all their lives find it surprisingly easy to switch to LGS. What is more, it is now an integral part of every good carpenter's training.

7. Steel framed houses look the same, yet they are more durable

There are no restrictions on the type of cladding that can be used with steel framing, so the finished houses look exactly like their timber alternatives.

8. Steel does not absorb water, increasing durability

Timber has a residual water content of 10-18%, so over time there are issues with mould and wood rot, even with treated timber. Unlike timber, however, steel does not absorb water, so it cannot promote mould, making for healthier homes in the long run.

9. Steel does not burn in a house fire

Unlike timber, steel frames will not ignite in a house fire. And when it comes to rebuilding after a fire, so long as the framing is not visibly distorted, it can be cleaned, left in place and recoated if necessary. It does not need to be replaced.

10. Steel has stood the test of time

Light gauge steel construction has been tried and tested for decades and has truly stood the test of time. It has been used successfully for over 60 years in residential and commercial construction.



Many NZ builders realise the benefits of building with light gauge steel.

If you would like to join them, get in touch with us at Central Steel Framing, and we can help you make a start.



You can trust CSF to put you straight with steel

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