



Low-cost micro home is made from timber and scavenged materials



Invisible Studio built this mobile [micro home](#) at its woodland studio near Bath, England, for just £20,000, thanks to the use of salvaged materials and locally grown timber.

The [UK architecture office](#) built the 40-square-metre gabled structure called Trailer out of unseasoned timber sourced the woodland surrounding its studio, as well as materials saved from construction waste.

"The project aims to provide a super [low cost](#), versatile, useable space that could act as a kit of parts for any self builder to improvise around or easily adapt," said Piers Tayler, architect and founder of Invisible Studio.

"While conceived as a domestic space, it could easily function as a workspace or something else."

Trailer is designed so it can be legally transported on Britain's roads. A wheeled bogie was used to tow the base of the structure into place, then slid out from under the steel frame and used to transport prefabricated timber frames to the woodland site.

At both gable ends interlocking polycarbonate panels allow natural light to fill the space, while window openings are cut into the longer sides and skylights set into the roof.

The structure is clad in corrugated fibreglass and steel, and the interior is lined in sheets of pre-used shuttering [plywood](#). The joinery, including the two ladders, are made from plywood offcuts. The corrugated material overhangs at either end, creating a sheltered porch where outdoor shoes can be left.

Inside, the rectangular plan has a living space that runs the entire length of the structure, with a gas stove in the middle. A toilet and a small cooking area are set either side in the in the wides part of the hexagonal structure.

Two ladders give access to two sleeping platforms at either end of the home, one of which is accessed via a wooden walkway suspended over the main space.

All the insulation was scavenged, the doors were found in a skip, and the skylights set into the roof were obtained cheaply as factory seconds.

Rope handrails strung the mezzanine levels and walkways are made from offcuts of the blue rope used for one of the architects' earlier projects, Studio in the Woods.

All the new timber used was from the surrounding area of woodland that Invisible Studio manages as a sustainable resource for their projects.

The same timber was used by the architects for [an earlier project called Visible Studio](#), a wooden workshop built on stilts with its own [composting toilet built for free from offcuts and foraged parts](#).

Trailer is now just one structure in the studio's growing woodland campus. Invisible Studios self builds its projects using a team of unskilled local labourers including neighbours.ilar



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Photography by Piers Taylor.