



"Most any metal building can be converted into a home," says Bert Winger.

"BEATS LIVING IN A TRAILER HOUSE"

Build Yourself A Pole-Barn House

"Beats living in a trailer house," claims Bert Winger, Fergus Falls, Minn., who's lived for three years in a steel-sided pole barn house he built for just \$12,000.

He plans to reconvert the pole house to office space and storage for the Winger's pick-your-own fruit and vegetable farm when his new conventional house is finished.

"It's a great idea for a young couple just starting out or anyone needing temporary housing. Trailer homes can be uncomfortable and can't be used for anything else," points out Winger.

The "homey" Menard building is 32 by 54 ft. with half that used as living area, and half as garage and sales area for the family's summer operation.

The building's 10-ft. walls, anchored by 6 by 6 in. poles, were studded in with 2 by 4's on 16-in. centers, panelled with rugged cedar, and filled with foam. A chipboard ceiling was suspended with the help of 2 by 12-in joists running crosswise through the rafters for extra strength. Insulation, 12 in. of it, was blown in directly on top of this.

The entire living area, which consists of a living room, dining room, kitchen, office, bathroom and two bedrooms is covered with rubber-backed carpet. Temporary walls separate the rooms so that office space can be arranged in the future.

"If I did it again, I'd put a layer of styrofoam under the concrete floor to insulate it," says Winger, "and make certain that the building was square when constructed. Otherwise, I think most any metal storage building would make a great home."

The building has electric baseboard heaters. There are several small windows and a large picture window is framed into a conventional overhead door opening.

Winger spent \$6,000 for the building itself in the summer of 1976, and another \$6,000 to finish the living quarters, and install the well and septic tank. The same building today, he feels, would probably cost from \$15,000 to \$18,000.

For more details, contact: FARM SHOW Followup, Bert Winger, Fergus Falls, Minn. 56537 (ph 218 736-6511).



Winger spent \$6,000 to finish off inside living quarters.

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SAVES MONEY AND DOGS LOVE IT

Home-Made Dog Soup

"It's quite a savings and dogs love it," says Ruthann Gordon, Box 67, Dawson, Pa., who has developed her own recipe for home-made vegetable soup for dogs.

Ruthann says if dogs are older or have kidney or bladder problems, there is no need to add stock other than perhaps bacon rind or beef fat. However, if your dog is on a prescription diet for any of these ailments, it's best to check with your vet before you use the recipe.

Ruthann makes a huge amount at one time and freezes in serving portions. One more caution: This recipe is not intended for dogs under 1 year of age due to the almost zero protein content.

16 oz. dry beef (or beef bones or bouillon)

Bacon rinds (or chicken skin or beef fat)

Dash of garlic powder or oregano

12 large potatoes (small pieces)

12 large onions, finely chopped

4 cups cabbage, fine

8 cups carrots, fine

4 qts. tomatoes (fresh or canned)

4 cups water, at least

1 or 2 qts. yellow beans or

1 or 2 qts. green beans with juice

After vegetables are cooked, add more water if necessary. Bring to a boil and add 1½ lbs. of dry rice and 4 cups of macaroni. Turn off heat and cover. Allow rice and macaroni to cook as mixture cools.

Suggested serving amount is 1 qt. for a 40 lb. dog. Freeze portions for size of need. Yields between 20 and 30 qts., depending on ingredients used. No harm in using extra tomatoes. Dogs love tomatoes.

Beans are very important to the recipe. Try never to omit them. This is a nice, good-smelling food to feed doggies. It travels well, too, with

small chance of spoilage for 3 or 4 days with short periods for cooling.

Start from home with it frozen. Depending on the dog, more or less rice and/or macaroni may be used to increase yield. Most dogs love this recipe.

You can even innovate with the above recipe as most cooks do with any recipe. Even if dogs are on kibble or canned food of an acceptable protein content, there is no reason why homemakers can't use half or more of usual commercial products and half this recipe. It's such a saving.

"I am assuming when I speak of saving," explains Ruthann, "that most readers have the ingredients on their pantry shelves. Even so, it is still a less expensive way if ingredients must be purchased."

For variety, Ruthann occasionally brews up treat for her doggies:

1 lb. or 2 of chicken giblets chopped in very small pieces and cooked with some onion or celery scraps in a large pot. Add a 3 lb. box of cornmeal, following box or bag directions. Cool and package for servings to suit your dog's need.

"We have found that dogs love anything that resembles people food. Anytime you serve poultry to the family, remove the skin. It's the very worst part for people, yet has such yummy value for making dog food. My dogs know when I come from the market with raw poultry. It's their favorite flavor. When I had more dogs and lots of energy, I used to go to a local poultry processor and buy 200 lbs. of chicken necks at one time. Of course, bones of any kind must be ground for dogs. Necks still go for 5¢ a lb. Compare that to your dry food price of 35 to 40¢ per lb."

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