

A Simple Wooden House in Rural Norway

Built for a young couple leading a rural existence, House on Pillars came with a basic brief to design a good and sustainable house on a low budget.



Opposite and above: The natural topography of the site creates a series of outdoor spaces and outlooks onto the rock bed and treetops.

HOUSE ON PILLARS
SANDEN + HODNEKVAM ARCHITECTS
NESODDEN, NORWAY

Long and narrow, this Norwegian home was designed by Oslo and Nesodden-based Sanden + Hodnekvam Architects. Standing on rugged terrain, it is raised on wooden pillars to ensure minimal impact on the existing landscape, a lush but rocky forest clearing. It is constructed in such a way that the bedrooms and bathroom sit at the building's core, surrounded by more communal spaces. Sliding doors separate different zones within the house, allowing sight lines down the length of the space when open, but also affording the occupants moments of privacy when desired.

At the center of the house, an open, light-filled space has a glass roof and big windows that overlook the garden and fjord beyond. Constructed primarily from pinewood, the timbers are equally visible inside the house as they are on the exterior and large structural beams remain exposed. The floors are also made from pine, with recycled brick sections in the winter garden and the sunken living room. Furnishings are simple and rustic, on the whole, characteristic of a simple, rural lifestyle.