



## SECTION II PLANNING YOUR SHELTER

Table II.3 shows the average costs for building three types of shelters – lean-to, aboveground (AG), and in-ground – in new houses on basement, slab-on-grade, and crawlspace foundations according to the design plans in this booklet. These costs are for shelters with a floor area of 8 feet by 8 feet.

Table II.3 Average cost for an 8-foot by 8-foot shelter in a new house

FOUNDATION TYPE	SHELTER TYPE <sup>1</sup>	AVERAGE COST
<b>Basement</b>	Lean-To	\$3,000
	AG – Reinforced Masonry	\$3,500
	AG – Wood-Frame w/Plywood & Steel Sheathing	\$5,000
	AG – Wood-Frame w/Concrete Masonry Unit Infill	\$4,500
	AG – Insulating Concrete Form	\$3,200
	In-Ground	NA
<b>Slab-on-Grade</b>	Lean-To	NA
	AG – Reinforced Masonry	\$3,500
	AG – Wood-Frame w/Plywood & Steel Sheathing	\$4,500 <sup>2</sup>
	AG – Wood-Frame w/Concrete Masonry Unit Infill	\$4,000 <sup>2</sup>
	AG – Insulating Concrete Form	\$3,700
	In-Ground	\$2,000
<b>Crawlspace</b>	Lean-To	NA
	AG – Reinforced Masonry	\$4,500
	AG – Wood-Frame w/Plywood & Steel Sheathing	\$6,000
	AG – Wood-Frame w/Concrete Masonry Unit Infill	\$5,500
	AG – Insulating Concrete Form	\$4,200
	In-Ground	NA

NA = shelter type not applicable for the foundation type shown

<sup>1</sup> AG = aboveground shelter (which can also be built in a basement)

<sup>2</sup> A first-floor, wood-framed interior room, such as a bathroom or closet, would be a normal part of a new house; therefore, the dollar amount shown is the additional cost for building the room as a shelter rather than as a standard interior room.

The cost of retrofitting an existing house to add a shelter will vary with the size of the house and its construction type. In general, shelter costs for existing houses will be approximately 20 percent higher than those shown in Table II.3.