Lake Build Spec Sheet

Architect secrets for a low-maintenance, stunning modern waterfront exterior.

Design your dream lake house with these exact material grades and techniques. This guide helps you communicate perfectly with your contractor to create a harmonious, durable exterior.



Key Exterior Specifications

Local solar noon angle
Sets passive solar overhang depth

3:1 ratio
Stack-effect venting intake to exhaust

25+ years
Thermally modified ash siding lifespan

3/16-inch
Hidden deck drainage board gaps

Min. 50 feet
Typical riparian buffer shoreline setback

1/4-inch per foot
Subtle slope for flat roofs

3/4-inch
Rainscreen furring strip ventilation gap

Protecting Hydrophilic Glass

Never use abrasive squeegees or silicone-based cleaners on self-cleaning panels; a simple hose rinse during dry spells is enough to wash the residue away safely.

Architect Secrets Explained

1. **Passive solar overhang** Model seasonal sun paths to block summer heat while maximizing winter solar gain.
2. **Stack-effect venting** Place exhaust vents high and shaded intakes low to push trapped hot air out naturally.
3. **Thermally modified ash** Baking wood alters its cellular structure, creating a rot-resistant exterior without harsh sealants.
4. **Hidden deck drainage** Install a concealed sub-surface trough system to divert water away from the foundation seamlessly.
5. **Self-cleaning glass** Specify hydrophilic coated glass that actively breaks down organic dirt and water spots automatically.

Native Waterfront Landscaping

Find your row: **Your site conditions**

Your site conditions	Your pick	Why
Loose sandy soils	Ornamental switchgrass	Provides movement and stabilizes soil
Right at water's edge	Blue flag iris	Absorbs excess moisture safely
Need year-round texture	Low-growing juniper shrubs	Evergreen texture never blocks views

Site Verification Checks

- ◯ Measure proposed footprint against local riparian buffer shoreline setbacks.
- ◯ Check siding fire codes for wildland-urban interface zones.
- ◯ Assess soil drainage capacity for the deck trough runoff.
- ◯ Find glass wind-load ratings for open lake exposure from the manufacturer.

Project Notes

Enjoy the breeze and your beautiful, low-maintenance waterfront retreat!