

How to Build an Adobe House

Adobe is a kind of brick. Adobe bricks have been used to build desert houses for many years. You can see adobe houses in the desert Southwest of our country.

To build a house of adobe, you need clay. Add water and dirt to the clay. Let it stand for a day or two. It will become soft. Then, mix in a little straw to make a paste. This will hold the brick together. Next, put the paste into molds. Each mold is made of pieces of wood put together in the shape of a brick. Then leave the bricks in the sun for about two weeks.

Once you have made the bricks, you can build your house. Add a roof, and your house is done! You will be warm in the winter and cool in the summer.

Strategy This is a good place to ask a question, such as, *“Why would I leave the bricks in the sun?”*

Skill Then you can use the details you have just read and what you already know about the sun to draw the conclusion that the sun will harden the bricks.