volunteer information

Four important steps to prepare for a safe and fun build day:

1. Read the Rules to Build By.
2. Review the Project Build Schedule.
3. Arrive at the build site (warehouse for Day 1 builds) on time. Volunteer sign-in begins at 7:30 a.m.
4. Commit to helping for the full build day.

what to wear

When you volunteer to build a new house with Atlanta Habitat, you will be working on a construction site. From head to toe, we want you to be safe and dressed comfortably.

- Weather appropriate shirt, sweater or jacket
- Sturdy pants such as jeans, khakis or shorts just above the knee (Leggings, tights, tennis skirts are not appropriate and potentially unsafe)
- Work gloves (We provide them, or you can wear your own)
- Hard hats (We provide them, or you can wear your own)
- Hard sole, sturdy shoes that you don’t mind getting dirty (Construction boots, hiking boots, or sturdy running shoes/sneakers recommended. No sandals or open-toe shoes allowed on site)
- Plenty of sunscreen
- No jewelry

Gear such as safety glasses, ear plugs, and dust masks will be provided at the build site for work requiring extra protection.

Thanks for volunteering with us!

rules to build by

Time Commitment

- **Arrive on time at the work-site** to participate in the required safety orientation.
- Commit to helping for the full build day.
- All volunteers are needed to help clean up at the end of the workday.

Age Restrictions

- No one under the age of 16 is allowed on site – no exceptions.
- Volunteers ages 16 and 17 must have a parent or guardian sign their *Release and Waiver of Liability*.
- Volunteers ages 16 and 17 will be excluded from certain activities, such as but not limited to, using power tools.

Tools and Materials

- All tools and supplies provided at work-site.
- Volunteers may bring tools; they must be marked with your name and phone number. Volunteers are not permitted to bring power tools. Atlanta Habitat is not responsible for damaged or lost items.
- Drinking water is provided on site.

Parking and Automobiles

- Volunteers are strongly encouraged to carpool. Parking is very limited.
- Please remove anything of value from your car. Atlanta Habitat is not responsible for car damage or stolen items.

Weather Conditions

- Atlanta Habitat builds year-round, rain or shine.
- Workdays are not typically canceled in advance due to adverse weather conditions.
- The house leader will shorten the workday if inclement weather persists or conditions become dangerous.
Eight Build Days

We build new homes in eight days over eight weeks. Each year, we help about 50 new families to become first-time homebuyers. You and the homebuyer will be guided by a house leader and skilled supervisors to build high quality, affordable and energy-efficient homes.

**Day 1***
- Build exterior and interior wall frames in the Atlanta Habitat warehouse
- Set floor joists and lay floor decking
- Apply sheathing to wall panels
- Move to property location to install exterior and interior walls
- Install front porch deck, columns and beams

**Day 2**
- Plumb walls and install deadwood
- Prep and install roof trusses
- Install exterior doors and security doors
- Install windows and trim packages
- Install exterior trim and siding
- Build side porch and stairs

**Day 3**
- Apply roof decking and felt
- Install interior framing (wind bracing and attic stairs)
- Install sub-fascia and drip edge
- Continue siding installation

**Day 4**
- Begin laying roof shingles
- Install porch handrails
- Insulate walls and ceiling
- Complete siding installation
- Begin caulking and painting exterior

**Day 5**
- Complete installation of roof shingles
- Install interior doors
- Install soffit and fascia boards
- Continue exterior painting and begin interior painting

**Day 6**
- Continue exterior and interior painting
- Install baseboards, window sills and interior trim
- Install kitchen cabinets and countertops
- Continue soffit and fascia board installations

**Day 7**
- Touch-up and finish exterior and interior painting
- Finish soffit and fascia board installations
- Install doorknobs and bathroom hardware

**Day 8**
- Clean interior of house
- Touch-up interior painting
- Complete miscellaneous tasks
- Remove construction debris from property
- Install landscape materials (sod, plants, trees, etc.)
- Dedication Day
  - on the final day of construction, house sponsors and volunteers join the new homebuyer family to dedicate the new home

Visit [www.atlantahabitat.org](http://www.atlantahabitat.org) to learn about Atlanta Habitat’s programs for first-time homebuyers, seniors and military veterans.

*All Day 1 volunteers meet at the Atlanta Habitat warehouse, 824 Memorial Drive SE, Atlanta, GA 30316. All other build days begin at the construction site.*
Atlanta Habitat is one of the largest affiliates of Habitat for Humanity International. With support from committed donors and 13,000 volunteers annually, we have helped more than 6,000 family members in 100 neighborhoods to improve their lives since 1983.

Atlanta Habitat’s expanded mission transforms communities through neighborhood revitalization, education, innovative development and strategic partnerships.

Our homes are built to high, energy-efficient standards. In addition to building new homes, we make critical repairs to older homes for seniors and military veterans, renovate blighted properties to like-new condition, and offer a range of educational opportunities to our homeowners.

Annually, we make a $6 million economic impact in Atlanta through construction, repairs, cleanups, and $500,000 in property tax payments.

For the first time in the organization’s 35-year history, Atlanta Habitat served 123 new families in 2017. In 2018, we reached 161 new families through our expanded programs that:

**Empower Families**
- $16,250 in education scholarships and entrepreneurial grants to pursue aspirational goals
- 94 percent meet their mortgage obligations
- 83 percent are better-off financially
- 72 percent cite improved health
- 61 paid-off their mortgages since 2015

**Revitalize Communities**
Our focus includes positively impacting entire neighborhoods:
- 79 Repair with Kindness projects*
- 184 Brush with Kindness projects**
- 8 Neighborhood Cleanup events*
- 1,534 houses built or renovated since 1983

**Grow Partnerships**
We are forging strategic partnerships to amplify our impact:
- New community partners help us to expand affordable housing opportunities, build resident retention and revitalize neighborhoods
- Community organizations allow us to offer a wide array of educational and enrichment programs for Atlanta Habitat youth

**Restore and Respect Assets**
The ReStore, our home improvement and décor store, sells new and gently used furniture, home accessories, building materials and appliances to the public at a fraction of the retail price:
- Generates enough net proceeds to sponsor dozens of Atlanta Habitat houses
- Diverts material from landfills; more than 12,000 tons since 2001

*Since 2016 ** Since 2011