

Home sweet home

1 Talk about the infographic with your partner. Answer the questions.

- 1 What information does the infographic give us?
- 2 In which countries are new homes over 125 m²?
- 3 In which countries are new homes under 90 m²?
- 4 Is there anything you find surprising about the information?

2a Read the texts about homes in three different countries. How many different types of homes are mentioned in the text?

How big is a new home?

Australia	214 m ²
the US	201 m ²
Canada	181 m ²
Denmark	137 m ²
Greece	126 m ²
Spain	97 m ²
the UK	76 m ²
China	60 m ²

Different homes around the world

Canada

Canada is a big country but there aren't a lot of people. However, over 70% of all Canadians live in cities, either in the suburbs or in the city centres in high-rise apartments. In the suburbs, there is more space and so homes are large. Many homes in the suburbs are bungalows or detached houses, and they are usually brick and wood. Most Canadian houses have a basement and many people have their washing machine there. One famous kind of Canadian house is the igloo and it's the traditional home of Inuit people. An igloo is an ice house, but most Inuit people live in brick homes today.



The UK

In the UK, most people live in houses. In fact, 82% of British families live in a house and only 15% live in a flat. There are different kinds of houses: detached (not joined to another house), semi-detached (joined to one other house), or terraced (several houses joined together). The most popular type of home in the UK is semi-detached (27%) and the average number of bedrooms is three. Many British people enjoy gardening, and most houses have a garden. The British have the smallest new houses in Europe. Most traditional British houses are stone or brick.

China

Nowadays, most Chinese people live in cities. Since 2012 there are more people living in urban than in rural areas in China. This means that most Chinese people don't live in traditional houses made of mud or clay anymore. There isn't a lot of space in the cities, so there are a lot of apartments. Kitchens in Chinese apartments are usually small and families often share a bathroom with other families.



2b Read the texts again and decide if the sentences are True (T) or False (F). Correct the false sentences.

- 1 In Canada 70% of people live in high-rise apartments. T / F
.....
- 2 Most modern Inuit people don't live in an igloo. T / F
.....
- 3 More UK families live in a house than in a flat. T / F
.....
- 4 A detached home is the most popular type of home in the UK. T / F
.....
- 5 Most Chinese people live in traditional houses. T / F
.....
- 6 There isn't a bathroom in some Chinese apartments. T / F
.....

2c Complete the sentences with *Canada, the UK, or China*.

- 1 Semi-detached homes are very popular in
- 2 Many homes in the suburbs in are bungalows.
- 3 Most people in live in an apartment.
- 4 Igloos are traditional in
- 5 Traditional houses in are made of mud and clay.
- 6 In most homes have three bedrooms.

Gateway to culture

3a Work with a partner and answer the questions.

- 1 What kind of home do you live in? Tell your partner about it.
- 2 Is there a typical type of home in your country? What is it like?
- 3 What kinds of homes can you see where you live (e.g. detached houses, bungalows, high-rise apartments, mud homes, brick homes, etc.)?

PROJECT

3b You are going to work on a presentation about typical homes. Read the questions and prepare your project research.

- 1 Work in small groups. Choose a country you are interested in to compare and contrast with your own country.
- 2 In your groups, do some research on the Internet to find information about the following for your country and your chosen country:
 - Where do most people live?
 - What are the different kinds of homes in cities and villages?
 - What is the most popular kind of home?
 - What is the average number of bedrooms in a home?
 - What is the size of a typical new home?
 - Any other interesting or surprising information about homes.
- 3 Work together and discuss what you found out. Decide how to present your information to the class. This can be a slideshow, a presentation or a poster, incorporating graphs, charts and pictures as necessary.

3c Present your information to the class. What are the main similarities and differences between your country and the country you chose?