# Making a Longhouse

12 Vikings built houses like ships - up to 100 feet long with
21 oval sides and sloping roofs. The main, boat-like room
31 could house up to fifty people (plus livestock during a
33 freezing winter).

### **36 Building a Longhouse**

- 45 1. Dig holes 1 metre deep, every 2 metres around47 the perimeter.
- 53 2. Set the posts in the holes.
- 61 3. Lash pre-cut, rough lumber onto the wooden frame64 with green twigs.
- 73 4. Daub thick mud into the joints between the boards78 to seal out the weather.
- 88 5. Hoist the roof joists above the two widest points of90 the building.
- 6. Raise the centre beam between the end joists andattach all three sections together securely.
- **114** 7. Attach all other roof joists to the centre beam.
- 119 8. Weave branches between the joists125 to support the outer roof layer.



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# **Quick Questions**



1. Who would live in the longhouse during the winter?



2. Which words means the same as 'lift'?



3. Why is it important to 'seal out weather'?



4. How does the layout help you to follow the instructions?









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### Answers



Who would live in the longhouse during the winter?
 Accept: up to 50 people plus their livestock.



2. Which words means the same as 'lift'? Accept: 'hoist' and 'raise'.



 Why is it important to 'seal out weather'?
 Accept any explanation linked to keeping warm during the winter.



4. How does the layout help you to follow the instructions?

Accept any explanation about the use of numbers to enable the reader to follow the steps in order.



