

Trusses vs. Rafters Cheat Sheet (2025 Edition)

This printable cheat sheet gives you a quick side-by-side breakdown of trusses and rafters so you can choose the right framing method for your roof project in 2025.

Trusses vs. Rafters: Side-by-Side Comparison

Feature	Trusses	Rafters
Cost	Lower (prefab, less labor)	Higher (custom work, more materials)
Installation Time	1-2 days	1 week or more
Labor Skill Needed	Moderate	High
Max Span Capability	Up to 60 ft	~30 ft without central support
Design Flexibility	Limited	Very High
Attic Usability	None or minimal	Fully usable attic or loft
Structural Strength	Excellent (engineered triangles)	Depends on lumber & layout
Transport Equipment	Needs crane and large truck	Fits in standard trailer or truck

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