



The Ins and Outs of Building and Renovating

Sam and Jason Fowler, the father-son team at Sea Island Builders, face off about the intricacies of constructing custom dwellings.

He Said:

Sam Said: Spray foam insulation is probably the single most eco-friendly, energy-efficient thing you can do when building a new house. We highly recommend using it.

Sam Said: I think a first-floor master—on the same level as the kitchen and living areas—is preferable. This arrangement is more convenient and saves a lot of walking up and down stairs everyday, especially as homeowners begin to age.

Sam Said: It's really a matter of personal preference. I like the more natural look of real wood siding and cedar shake even though they require a little more maintenance.

Most Efficient
Eco-Friendly
Upgrade?

Master Suite:
Upstairs or
Downstairs?

Best Exterior
Siding
Option?

He Said:

Jason Said: There have been huge advances in solar technology. We have a friend who installed panels on his house, and his utility bills are near net zero in the moderate months.

Jason Said: Upstairs master all the way! To make the design perfect, consider a stacked washer and dryer in the master closet to eliminate lugging laundry around the house.

Jason Said: I'm a huge believer in materials that are durable and require the lowest maintenance. There are some great manufacturers of composite materials out there, such as CertainTeed and Azek. These products hold paint much longer than wood, do not rot or decay, and are hurricane resistant.

For more information, call Sea Island Builders at (843) 883-7430 or visit seaislandbuilders.com.



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4 For the House: The Barstool Shop | (843) 881-7073 | thebarstoolshopcharleston.com