

## Pink Flamingos Not Included

“There were still some gaps, but you could walk through and see what everything was going to look like,” Munday said. Lego models take longer to put together. Instead, their home construction was more like opening a pop-up children’s book. A time-lapse video of the Orinda construction can be seen at <https://vimeo.com/147523892>. And the company’s website will give you an idea of how pre-fab homes get sold at [www.connect-homes.com](http://www.connect-homes.com).

The process goes something like this, or at least this is the way it worked for the Mundays. They found a piece of land they liked. They weren’t sure it would work for the company and the house they wanted, so while they were in escrow with the land, Connect-Homes representatives visited to see how the house would be best located, watching for views and sun exposure. Given the thumbs up, the Mundays closed escrow and spent three months building the foundation to specifications, worked with utilities to get pipes and electricity to the site, then waited for the arrival of the containers.

“It was surprisingly pretty easy,” Munday said.

The result is a modern house with clean lines, and most importantly to Munday, no cost overruns. “Whenever you have new construction, or even a remodel, the contractors come back and say, ‘this went over our estimate,’ or ‘this took longer than we thought,’ and it ends up costing twice as much as they quoted

you in the beginning,” he said. “Frankly, I was shocked. They sent me a bill for exactly what they said it was going to cost.”

Another thing he likes is that his choice is a safe one in earthquake country. “This is safer than a regular

house,” Munday said. “Each model has a steel frame and a slight bit of flex.”

But alas, with all that metal and glass, pink flamingos are not included.

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Modular homes can come with outbuildings that serve as laundry or guest rooms.

Photo Chris Lavin

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