

Prefab-ulous

*Modernist aesthetic
and the
prefabricated module*

Text: JORDANA WHITE Photography: COURTESY kitHAUS



Prefab. Module. Modernism. These words have been thrown around since the 1920s when the Bauhaus and International Style movements were just beginning. Nearly a century later, their meanings have traveled quite a distance from the ideals that gave them life.

But first things first—for those of you scratching your heads in confusion—here's a working definition of the terms. On the most basic level, prefab, or prefabricated, refers to a home that is constructed on-site from prefabricated components. A module or modular home is a building designed using prefab materials; Modernism is an architectural style devoted to simple, clean designs and the use of basic materials such as glass, steel, and reinforced concrete. Modular living and Modernism are closely related because the nature of prefab lends itself to the use of materials and designs important to