



concept 
construction

— FREE GUIDE — CHRISTCHURCH & CANTERBURY

The Essential Guide to Building Your *New Home*.

Everything you need to know before you break ground — from choosing the right builder to protecting your budget and getting the quality your home deserves.

INTRODUCTION

Building a home is the biggest investment of your *life*.

It should also be one of the most rewarding experiences you'll ever have.

We've spent over twenty years building architectural homes across Christchurch and the Port Hills.

In that time, we've watched clients come to us after bad experiences with other builders — blown budgets, poor communication, workmanship that didn't match the promise.

This guide gives you the knowledge you need to make the right decisions from day one.

20+

Years Building In
Canterbury

300

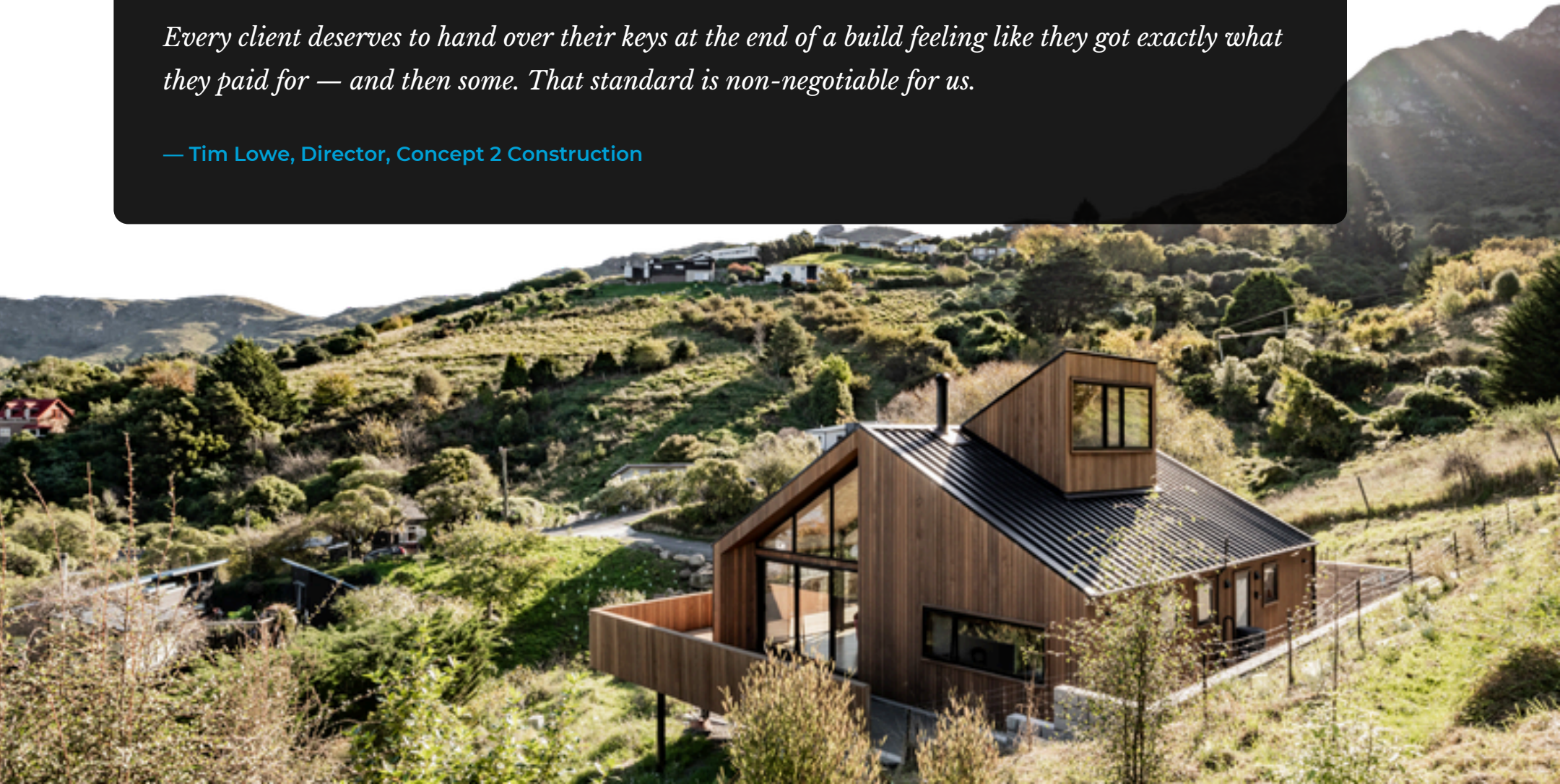
Point Quality
Checklist

10yr

Master Build
Guarantee

Every client deserves to hand over their keys at the end of a build feeling like they got exactly what they paid for — and then some. That standard is non-negotiable for us.

— Tim Lowe, Director, Concept 2 Construction



— STEP ONE

Choosing the *right* builder.

The builder you choose will have more influence over the final result than almost any other decision you make. Here is exactly what to look for.



Licensed Building Practitioner (LBP)

This is the legal minimum in New Zealand for Restricted Building Work. Check any builder's LBP status at building.govt.nz — it takes 30 seconds.



Registered Master Builder

Master Builder membership requires standards of workmanship, financial stability, and business practice. It unlocks the 10-Year Master Build Guarantee.



A proven track record in your type of build

Not all builders are the same. Ask to see completed projects and speak to past clients directly.



Transparent pricing and variation management

The single biggest source of stress in a build is financial surprises. Ask every builder how they handle variations — the answer tells you everything.



Clear, consistent communication

You should never have to chase your builder. Ask how often you'll receive updates and who your point of contact is.



Understanding your *budget.*

The most common cause of a build going wrong is a gap between what someone wants to spend and what their design actually costs.

The most important thing you can do is bring a builder in early — before your plans are drawn. A good builder gives you honest cost guidance at concept stage so you design to what's achievable.



Site conditions

Slope, ground conditions, access, and council consent requirements all affect cost before a single board is nailed.



Specification and materials

The difference between double and triple glazing, or solid timber and floating floors, can be tens of thousands across a whole home.



Complexity of design

Raking ceilings, large glazing, cantilevered structures — all add labour and material cost. Worth it, but budget for them.



PC Sums and allowances

Provisional Cost Sums for kitchens, tiles, and appliances. If set too low, you'll overspend them. Ask your builder where allowances are set.



— STEP THREE

What a premium build process looks *like*.

A great build doesn't happen by accident. It follows a structured process that keeps the client informed, the budget controlled, and the quality consistent.

01

First conversation and site visit

An honest discussion about your vision, budget, and timeline. A great builder asks more questions than they answer at this stage.

02

Early contractor involvement with your architect

The builder reviews design as it develops, providing buildability and cost feedback before anything is locked in.

03

Detailed quote and programme

A thorough, itemised quote with a realistic timeline. Every scope item defined. Every allowance clearly stated.

04

Pre-construction planning

Consents confirmed, selections timeline agreed, subcontractors booked, programme locked in. No surprises on day one.

05

Construction with weekly communication

Weekly site meetings. Monthly financial reviews. Variations documented and approved before work proceeds.

06

Handover and post-build care

A thorough pre-handover inspection. Keys delivered when the home meets the standard. 3, 6, and 12-month follow-up programme.



— OUR COMMITMENT TO YOU

What we stand *behind.*

Our 5-Point Guarantee is the way we make trust concrete — real accountability, not just good intentions.

BUDGET ASSURANCE

We stick to the budget we quote. Costs not pre-approved by you are covered by us.

ON-TIME COMPLETION

Financial credit for every week of delay without justification.

TRUST & INTEGRITY

Full deposit refund if we fail on transparency. We mean it.

COMMUNICATION

Weekly updates, direct access to Tim and Gabby, monthly financial reviews.

QUALITY CRAFTSMANSHIP

300-point checklist. If our work doesn't meet our standard, we fix it at no cost.

10-YEAR GUARANTEE

The New Zealand Master Build 10-Year Guarantee on every home we build.

What you agree to is what you receive. Honest pricing, honest communication, and a premium building experience built on professionalism and care.

— TIM LOWE, DIRECTOR



Quality you can see — and feel.

The difference between a good build and a great build isn't always visible on day one. It shows up in how the home performs and feels over the years that follow.

Premium craftsmanship means plum walls, tight joints, flush surfaces, and transitions between materials that look deliberate - because they are.

Our 300-point quality checklist

Every build is checked against a 300-point quality checklist running concurrently through every stage of construction — not just at the end. Each stage is signed off before work progresses.

The checklist covers framing tolerances, weathertightness details, insulation continuity, lining flatness, joinery fit, tile alignment, paint finish, and dozens more items that determine how a home performs for decades.



Weathertightness

Every joint, penetration, and junction is detailed and sealed to the manufacturer's specification.



Thermal performance

Insulation continuity, thermal bridging, and airtightness decisions are made during construction — not after.



Architectural joinery and finishes

We work with trusted specialist tradespeople who understand the standard architectural builds demand.

— AFTER HANDOVER

Our commitment doesn't end at *handover*.

Most builders hand over the keys and move on. We don't. Every Concept 2 Construction client receives our full post-build care programme — three structured touchpoints in the first year designed to protect your home and your peace of mind.

3 Months

Personal phone call from Tim to check how you're settling in and catch anything early.

6 Months

Site visit — full inspection, paint touch-ups, and a written report. We'll also ask if you'd like to share your experience in a short video testimonial filmed at the home.

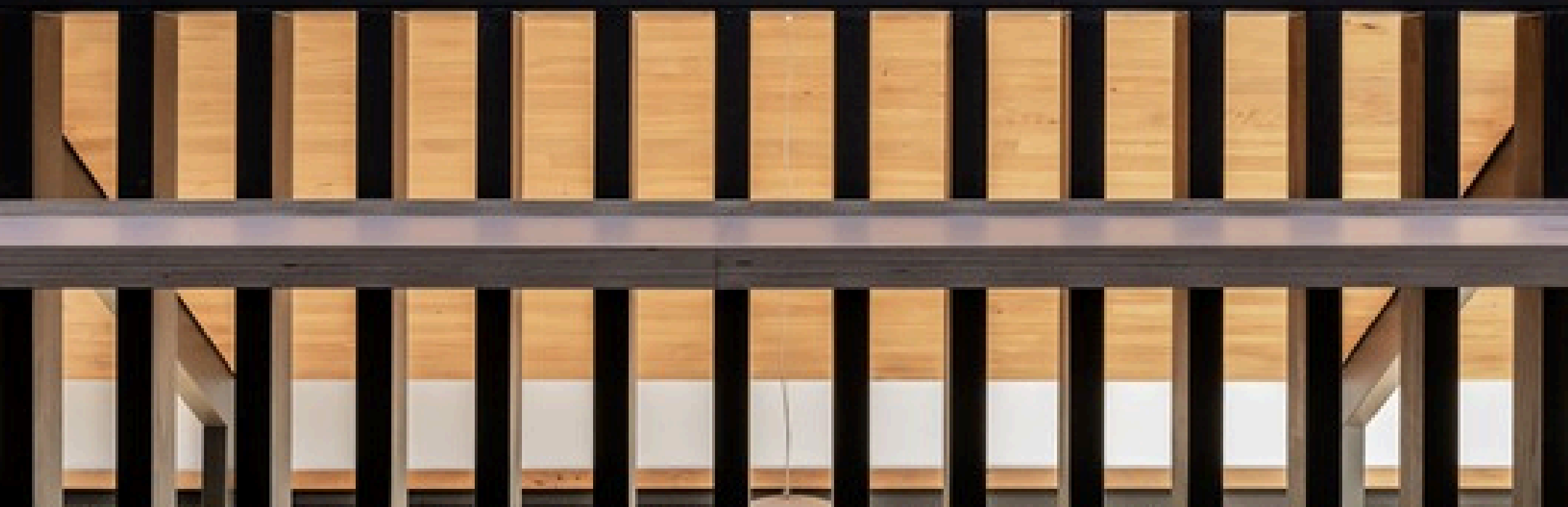
12 Months

Annual meeting with Tim. Warranty review, maintenance advice, and a conversation about what's next.

And beyond the first year — a personal Christmas message every December, a 2-year check-in text from Tim, and a maintenance reminder to keep your home performing at its best for decades to come.

We treat every client's home as if it were our own — and that doesn't stop the moment we hand over the keys.

— TIM LOWE, DIRECTOR, CONCEPT 2 CONSTRUCTION





— READY TO TALK?

Your new home starts with the right *conversation.*

We'd love to hear about your project — whether you're at the earliest stages or you have plans ready to go. The first conversation is always honest, always obligation-free, and always with Tim personally.

CALL OR TEXT TIM

021 176 3928

EMAIL

info@concept2construction.co.nz

WEBSITE

concept2construction.co.nz

BASED IN

Christchurch, Canterbury, NZ

LICENSED BUILDING PRACTITIONER · REGISTERED MASTER BUILDER · 10-YEAR MASTER BUILD GUARANTEE