



The Backyard Dome Idea Book

67 Ways to Transform Your Outdoor Space

Configuration Guide • Utah Considerations • Cost Breakdown

DomeGrownFarms.com
Heirloom Produce Grown in a Dome

Welcome

You're holding this guide because you've imagined something more for your backyard. Maybe you want to grow vegetables year-round. Maybe you want to soak in your hot tub during a snowstorm. Maybe you just want a space that's yours—separate from the house, surrounded by nature, usable in any weather.

The geodesic dome makes all of this possible.

In this guide, you'll discover 67 different ways people are using backyard domes. Some are practical. Some are creative. Some might surprise you. Our goal isn't to sell you on a specific vision—it's to help you find yours.

We've also included practical information: how to configure your dome, what matters for Utah's climate, and honest cost breakdowns so you know what to expect.

Take your time. Circle the ideas that speak to you. And when you're ready to talk, we're here.

— *The Dome Grown Farms Family*
Utah County, Utah

Imagine the Possibilities

One structure. Endless configurations. Here are just a few ways you could transform your backyard with your own geodesic dome.



Year-Round Greenhouse



Hot Tub Enclosure



Winter BBQ & Grill



Wellness & Sunbathing Retreat



Podcast & Creative Studio



Weather-Resistant Storage

67 Ways to Use Your Dome

Browse the categories below and mark the ones that excite you. Remember: the same 18-foot dome can serve any of these purposes—it all comes down to configuration.

Home & Lifestyle

Greenhouse — Grow vegetables, herbs, and flowers year-round. Our most popular use case—extend your season from 4 months to 12.

Garden Lounge — A peaceful retreat for morning coffee, reading, or simply watching your garden grow.

Hot Tub Enclosure — Enjoy your hot tub in any weather with privacy and wind protection. Retains heat and cuts energy costs.

Fire Pit — Gather around the fire without smoke in your eyes. Open apex venting draws smoke up and out.

Winter BBQ/Grill — Grill comfortably in rain, wind, or snow. Built-in ventilation handles the smoke.

Pool Enclosure — Extend your swimming season and keep debris out. Perfect for above-ground pools.

Stargazing — Clear-sky viewing without wind, bugs, or light interference. Great for telescopes.

Outdoor Shower — Privacy and weather protection for outdoor bathing. Popular with pool owners.

Morning Coffee Lounge — A dedicated spot for daily rituals with panoramic views of your yard.

Wellness & Self-Care

Meditation Room — A dedicated space to slow down and reset. Diffused covering creates soft, calming light.

Yoga Studio — Your personal movement studio—no commute, no membership fees, no crowds.

Red Light Therapy — Full-body light therapy in a dedicated space. Mount your panels inside.

Sauna Enclosure — A modern alternative to bulky backyard saunas. Configure with insulated panels.

Cold Plunge — Cold exposure without wind, snow, or neighbors watching. Privacy covering available.

Sunbathing Retreat — Private outdoor tanning with shade cloth options for controlled sun exposure.

Breathwork & Sound Bath — Acoustically supportive space for sound healing and breathwork sessions.

Nap Pod — A dedicated space for restorative daytime rest. Blackout covering available.

Stretching & Recovery — Post-workout recovery space with room for foam rollers and mobility work.

Aromatherapy Space — Enclosed space for concentrated aromatherapy sessions with ventilation control.

Family, Play & Leisure

Board Game Room — A cozy, distraction-free space for games and family connection.

Kids Playhouse — A magical backyard playhouse that kids won't outgrow. Durable and weather-resistant.

Teen Hangout — A semi-private space for teens that's still on your property. Their space, your peace of mind.

Outdoor Movie Night — Weather-protected cinema under the stars. Mount a screen, add projector, enjoy.

Gaming Den — Dedicated space for video games with power pass-through and climate control options.

Music Practice Room — Practice instruments without disturbing the household. Sound-dampening available.

Backyard Camping — The camping experience without leaving home. Perfect for family adventures.

Birthday Party Venue — A magical venue for kids' parties. Easy to decorate, easy to clean.

LEGO & Model Building — Dedicated space for long-term building projects with work table and storage.

Work & Creative Spaces

Backyard Office — Work from home without being in the home. Separate your workspace from your living space.

Art Studio — A light-filled space for painting, drawing, and creative work.

Reading & Writing Nook — A quiet sanctuary for focused reading, writing, or journaling.

Weather-Resistant Storage — Protect bikes, equipment, and seasonal items. Blue cover sheds snow and reflects heat.

Podcast Studio — Professional audio recording away from household noise with acoustic treatment.

Zoom Room — Professional background and quiet for video meetings. Lighting ring and backdrop ready.

Photography Studio — Natural light studio for portrait and product photography.

Workshop & Maker Space — Dedicated space for hands-on projects and crafts. Workbench layout available.

Sewing & Craft Room — Organized creative space for fabric arts, quilting, and crafting.

Home Library — A quiet reading sanctuary surrounded by books. Climate control available.

Pets & Animals

Dog Training Space — Train and play with your dog regardless of weather. Durable flooring options.

Chicken Coop — Protected, ventilated shelter for backyard chickens.

Catio (Cat Patio) — Safe outdoor access for indoor cats with climbing attachments.

Rabbit Hutch — Protected outdoor space for rabbits and small pets with predator-proof screening.

Bird Aviary — Enclosed outdoor flight space for pet birds with fine mesh screening.

Aquaponics System — Combined fish and plant growing system enclosure with climate control.

Dog Grooming Station — Dedicated outdoor grooming space with drainage-ready floor.

Pet Recovery Space — Isolated space for pet recovery or introducing new animals to the household.

Entertaining & Social

Outdoor Dining Room — Host dinner parties in any weather. Table layout for 6-8 guests.

Bar & Lounge — Your own backyard gathering spot with bar-height layout and accent lighting.

Cigar Lounge — Ventilated space for smoking without bothering neighbors.

Wine Tasting Room — Intimate setting for wine enjoyment with temperature control options.

Holiday Gathering Space — Extended dining capacity for Thanksgiving, Christmas, and family gatherings.

Small Business & Commercial

Farm Stand — Weather-protected retail space for farm sales with display shelving.

Pop-Up Retail — Temporary or seasonal retail space with quick setup design.

Food Vendor Booth — Enclosed space for food service operations with ventilation.

Private Dining Experience — Restaurant add-on for premium outdoor dining with premium finishes.

Airbnb & Glamping Rental — Unique accommodation for rental income. Insulated package available.

Massage & Spa Studio — Outdoor treatment room for wellness practitioners with privacy covering.

Photography Session Space — Rentable space for portrait sessions with natural light optimization.

Education & Learning

Homeschool Classroom — Dedicated learning space separate from home distractions.

Tutoring Space — Private space for one-on-one instruction with whiteboard mounting.

Science Lab & STEM Center — Hands-on learning space for experiments and projects.

Nature Observation — Clear enclosure for wildlife watching and nature photography.

Seasonal & Special Purpose

Christmas Display — Illuminated holiday scene protected from weather with light mounting system.

Halloween Haunted House — Spooky enclosed experience for trick-or-treaters.

Holiday Dining — Extended dining capacity specifically for holiday overflow.

Seedling Starter — Early-season growing space before transplanting outdoors.

Winter Garden Protection — Season extension for cold-hardy crops with insulated covering.

Configuring Your Dome

Every dome we install is 18 feet in diameter, giving you approximately 254 square feet of interior space. That's enough for a serious greenhouse, a hot tub with seating, or a comfortable workshop. What makes each dome unique is how we configure it.

Covering Options

Clear Greenhouse Film — Maximum light transmission for growing. Best for greenhouses, seedling starters, and anywhere you want full sunlight.

Opaque Shrink Wrap (Blue or White) — Weather protection without full transparency. Blue reflects heat and sheds snow well. Good for storage, workshops, and covered gathering spaces.

Shade Cloth — Available in 30-70% shade ratings. Perfect for hot tub enclosures, sunbathing spaces, and anywhere you want filtered light.

Privacy/Frosted — Diffused light without visibility. Ideal for yoga studios, meditation rooms, and wellness spaces.

Ventilation

Proper ventilation is critical—especially in Utah's hot summers. We configure ventilation based on your use case:

Apex Vent — Opens at the top of the dome. Hot air rises and escapes naturally. Essential for greenhouses and BBQ domes.

Side Vents — Lower ventilation for cross-airflow. Useful for animal enclosures and spaces needing constant air exchange.

Door Placement — We position the door based on prevailing winds and your yard layout. Standard door or double-door options available.

Interior Layout

We can configure the interior with shelving, benches, work surfaces, or leave it open. Common configurations include:

- **Growing Racks** — Multi-tier shelving for maximum plant capacity
- **Perimeter Benches** — Seating around the edges with open center
- **Work Table** — Central table for workshops, crafts, or potting
- **Open Floor** — Maximum flexibility for furniture, equipment, or activities

Utah-Specific Considerations

We've operated geodesic domes through Utah winters ourselves. Here's what actually matters for our climate:

Snow Load

The geodesic shape naturally sheds snow and distributes weight evenly across the structure. Our domes are engineered to handle Utah County snow loads. The curved surface prevents accumulation, and the triangular framework distributes any load that does build up.

Wind Resistance

Geodesic domes are inherently wind-resistant—the spherical shape has no flat surfaces for wind to catch. We've seen our structures handle Utah's spring windstorms without issue. Proper anchoring is included with every installation.

Temperature Extremes

Utah's temperature swings—from sub-zero winters to 100°+ summers—require thoughtful ventilation design. For greenhouse use, we configure adequate venting to prevent overheating in summer while retaining heat in winter. For year-round comfort in other applications, we can add insulation panels or climate control provisions.

Permits & Regulations

Many Utah cities waive or simplify permits for small detached accessory structures (often up to 200 square feet) and low decks, but requirements vary by city and zoning. We verify the rules for your exact address and handle the permitting process for you.

You don't need to figure this out yourself—we'll confirm requirements during your consultation and take care of any paperwork.

Honest Cost Breakdown

We believe in transparency. Here's what you can expect to invest in a backyard dome:

Installed Price Range

Our 18-foot diameter dome ranges from **\$4,500 to \$8,500 installed**, depending on your configuration choices.

What affects the price:

- **Covering type** — Clear film is most economical; specialty coverings cost more
- **Ventilation complexity** — Basic apex vent vs. multiple automated vents
- **Interior buildout** — Open floor vs. shelving, benches, or work surfaces
- **Deck or foundation** — Ground-mount vs. raised deck platform
- **Accessories** — Lighting, power pass-through, climate control provisions

What's Included

Every installation includes:

- Complete geodesic frame (18' diameter)
- Covering of your choice
- Standard door
- Basic ventilation
- Professional installation (typically 1-2 days)
- Anchoring appropriate for your site
- Permit handling (if required)
- Lifetime support from a local family business

No Hidden Costs

The quote we give you is the price you pay. We don't add surprise fees for delivery, installation, or "site preparation." If something unexpected comes up during installation, we'll discuss it with you before any additional charges.

Ready to Explore?

If you've found a use case that excites you—or even a few—we'd love to talk.

Our consultation is free, no-pressure, and genuinely useful even if you decide a dome isn't right for you. We'll discuss your vision, look at your space (photos or in person), and give you a clear sense of what's possible and what it would cost.

Schedule Your Free Consultation

Call us at: (559) 667-7208

We're a Utah County family, and we're here when you're ready.

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