

# Creating a Cupola

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This article also applies to the following legacy products:  
Pro | Architectural | Suite

## QUESTION

I would like to create a cupola, also known as a lantern, or steeple on top of the main roof of my structure in Home Designer. How can I do that?



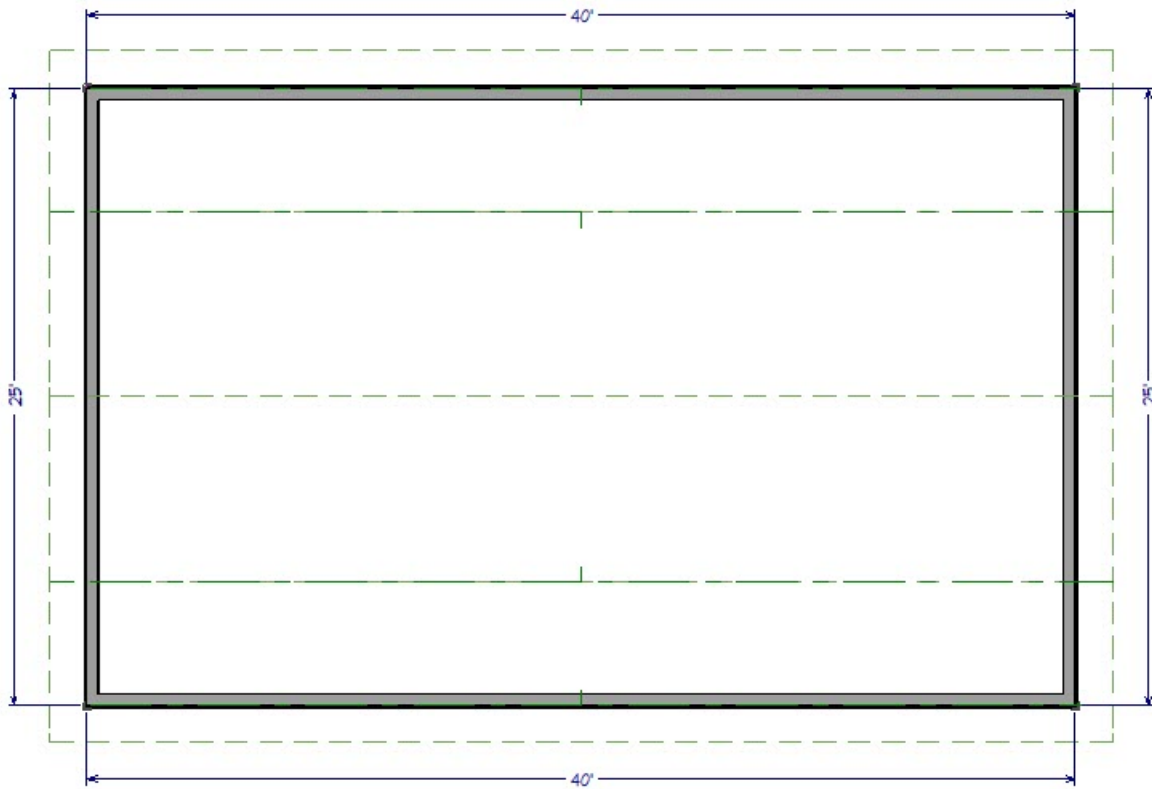
## ANSWER

A cupola structure will need to be created on the floor above your current design. These instructions will walk you through creating a basic square, hip roof cupola, as in the barn image above.



### To create a cupola

1. In the plan where you'd like to create the cupola, select **Build> Floor> Build New Floor** .

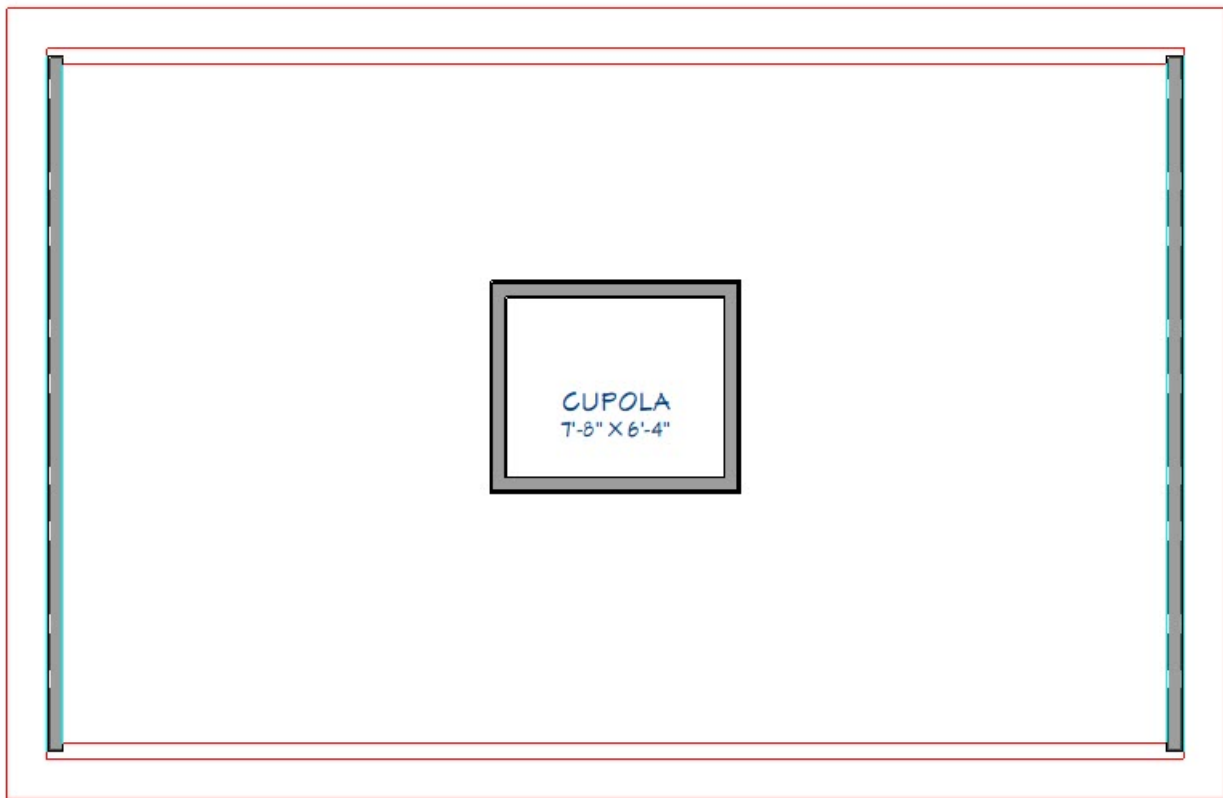
In this example, a basic 25' x 40' structure with a gambrel roof is already created.





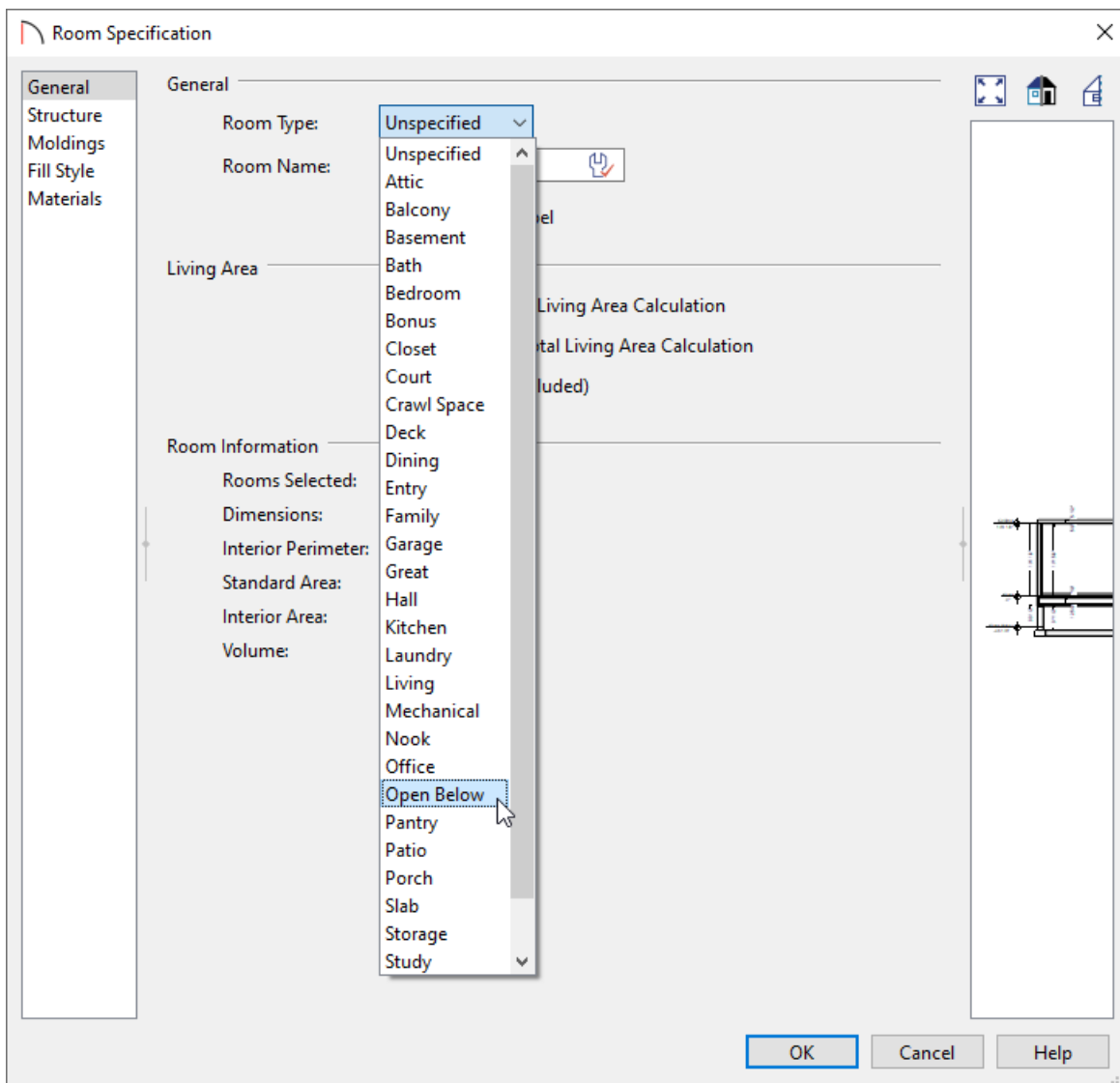
For information on creating a gambrel roof or other basic roof designs, please see the [Related Articles](#) below.


2. In the **New Floor** dialog that displays, choose the **Make new (blank) plan for the 2nd Floor** option and click **OK**.
3. In the **2nd Floor Defaults** dialog that displays next, set your **Ceiling** height to the height you'd like the cupola to extend to.
4. To allow you to see the outline of the walls below, select **Tools> Floor/Reference Display> Reference Floor Display** .
5. Select **Build> Wall> Straight Exterior Wall**  and in a clockwise fashion draw the walls that will make up the cupola until you have a completely enclosed room.

Notice that in our example, since we have two Full Gable walls set on the floor below that the attic walls to the left and right are created automatically, but we are not placing the cupola inside of an enclosed room.





6. Using the **Select Objects**  tool, click inside of the cupola room to select it, then click the **Open Object**  edit tool.
7. In the **Room Specification** dialog that displays:



- On the **GENERAL** panel, set the **Room Type** to **Open Below**.
  - You can change the **Room Name** to Cupola, if desired.
  - If you need to adjust the ceiling height of the cupola go to the **STRUCTURE** panel, and adjust the **Ceiling** elevation.
  - Once you're done with your changes, click **OK**.
8. Navigate to **3D> Create Camera View> Perspective Full Overview**  to verify that the cupola displays at the correct height.

In Home Designer Pro, instead navigate to **3D> Create Perspective View> Perspective Full Overview** .

**Note:** If your roof did not change, it's likely that Auto Rebuild Roofs is not enabled. To enable this setting, navigate to Build> Roof> Build Roof, check the Auto Rebuild Roofs box, and click OK.

9. While in your 3D view, you will find it easy to place windows, using the **Window**  tool, or vents from the **Library Browser** .

Ventilation can be found in the **Library Browser**  by going to **Home Designer Core Catalogs> Mechanical, Electrical, Plumbing> Ventilation**.

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#### Related Articles

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