QUESTION

I would like to create a prow roof, where a gable-style wall juts out a few feet farther than the rest of the structure. How can I use Home Designer's automatic roof tools to accomplish this task?

ANSWER
Creating a Prow style roof in Home Designer is easy by properly defining the correct walls as High Shed/Gable. To begin, start with a basic plan, as in the image below.

![Diagram of a Prow style roof](image)

Once you have your new plan created, you are ready to start defining the walls to create a prow style roof.

To create a prow style roof

1. First, use the **Select Objects** tool to select the back straight wall, and click on the **Open Object** edit tool to display the **Wall Specification** dialog.

2. On the **ROOF** panel, place a checkmark in **Full Gable Wall** option, and click **OK** to apply this change.
3. Next, use the Select Objects tool to select one of the angled front walls, and click on the Open Object edit tool to display the Wall Specification dialog.

4. This time, on the ROOF panel, place the checkmark in the High Shed/Gable Wall option.

5. Repeat this process for the other front angled wall, so that both are defined as High Shed/Gable Walls.

6. Next, select Build> Roof> Build Roof*, then click OK to generate a roof over the structure.

   *In Home Designer Pro, place a checkmark in Build Roof Planes before clicking OK.

7. Take a 3D Camera view to see the results.
Now that you have a basic understanding of how to create this style of a roof, you can use invisible walls to create a room that will allow for extending the roof out further.

To extend the roof out further

1. Select **Build > Wall > Room Divider** then in a clockwise fashion, click and drag out four invisible walls attached to the front of the structure, as shown in the image below.

2. As you did with the front two walls in the last section, use the **Select Objects** tool to select one of the angled front Invisible walls, and click on the **Open Object** edit tool to display the **Wall Specification** dialog.

3. Place the checkmark in the **High Shed/Gable Wall** option, and click **OK** to apply the change.
4. Repeat this process for the other front angled Invisible wall, so that both are defined as High Shed/Gable Walls.

5. Next, select **Build > Roof > Build Roof**[^1], remove the checkmark from **Auto Rebuild Roofs**[^2], then click **OK** to regenerate a roof over the structure.

   ![Diagram](image.png)

   *Again, in Home Designer Pro, remember to place a checkmark in Build Roof Planes before clicking OK.

   *Auto Rebuild Roofs not available in Home Designer Essentials version of the software.

Now that you have regenerated your roof, you will need to modify this room created with room divider walls so that it does not generate a ceiling over the room, allowing your structure to appear as though just the roof juts out over the area.

To remove the ceiling

1. Next, use the **Select Objects** tool to click inside of the room to select it, and click on the **Open Object** edit tool to display the Room Specification dialog.
2. On the **GENERAL** panel, let's use the **Room Type** drop down menu to select **Slab**.

3. On the **STRUCTURE** panel, increase the **Finished Ceiling Height** to 194" and uncheck **Ceiling Over this Room**, but be sure to leave **Roof over this Room** checked.

![Room Specification Panel](image)

4. Click **OK** to apply these changes and close the dialog.

5. Finally, take another **3D Camera** view to see the results.
6. At this point, if you do not choose to rebuild the roof (and uncheck Auto Rebuild Roofs in the Build Roof dialog), then you can delete this temporary slab room after the roof is created.

Please note that the Home Designer Pro version of the software, which allows for manual editing of roof planes, does not require creating a temporary room unless you use the automatic roof tools.

You are now ready to take the information you have learned in this article on how to create a prow style roof, and apply it to your own design.