

Architectural Design

Design Problem 2026

A Barndominium for the Biscelliot Family

Project Overview

You are tasked with designing a unique barndominium—a modern, barn-inspired residence—for a family of five. The setting is a scenic area, where the landscape is as much a part of the experience as the home itself. Your objective is to create a harmonious balance between comfortable family living and the beauty of the natural surroundings.

Site & Natural Features

Select an inspiring location that features a forest. Your design must incorporate this feature both visually and experientially, making it a central part of the home's atmosphere and daily life.

Design Requirements

- **Family Lifestyle:** Accommodate the needs of a family of five, including communal areas for gathering, private retreats for every member, and flexible spaces for recreation or remote work.
- **Barndominium Aesthetics:** Reflect the essential qualities of a barn—spaciousness, warmth, and simplicity—while merging modern amenities and sustainability.
- **Connection to Nature:** Create seamless transitions between indoor and outdoor spaces, using materials, orientation, and views to highlight the surrounding natural feature. For example, frame mountain vistas with grand windows, design a deck reaching out toward a lake, or site the home to follow the gentle curve of a creek.
- **Sustainability:** Incorporate eco-friendly materials and energy-efficient systems, considering how the home interacts with its environment throughout the seasons.
- **Sense of Place:** Ensure that your design feels integrated into the setting, respecting both the land's natural contours and the local architectural vernacular.
- The finished design must be contained on a maximum of one acre of land.
- A maximum 24"x24" site board must be used for submitting the model.