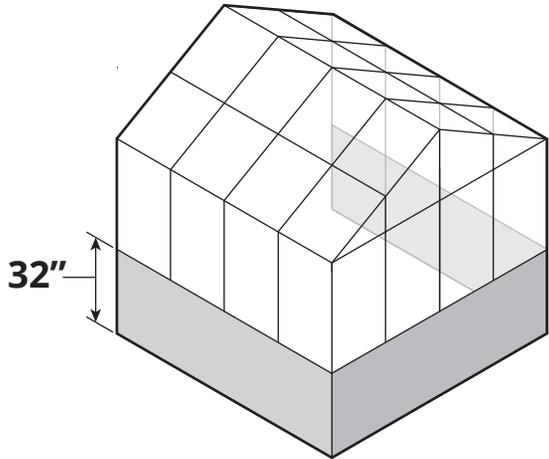
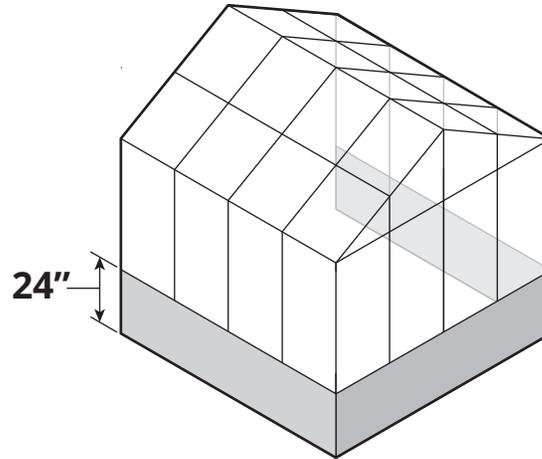


Base Wall Considerations

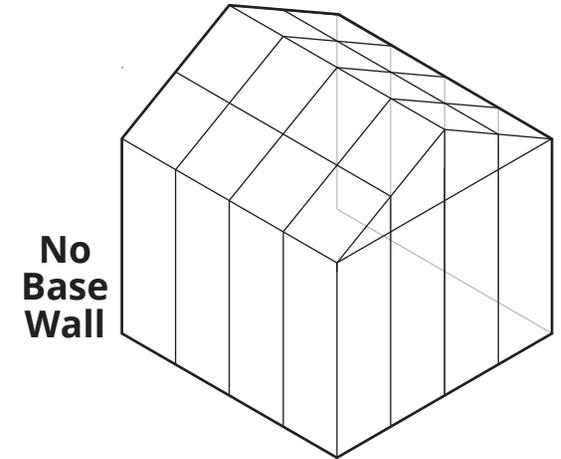
Base walls, or knee walls, can be integrated into a structure's design to meet a desired appearance, but can also provide practical solutions to common problems. In areas where grass needs to be mowed nearby, the base wall will provide protection from mower-thrown projectiles. In areas where snow accumulates, the base wall will provide better thermal protection when snow is piled directly against the structure. Cost savings may also be associated with base walls as it reduces frame height and the glazing area. In all instances, a footed concrete slab should be constructed as the foundation. Solar Innovations recommends two standard heights, dependent upon how the structure will be used and its surroundings:



Ideal height when furniture is to be positioned against the wall and provides privacy when sitting. In greenhouses, the sun can dry out plant roots on pots on the floor near the walls. This height optimizes that protection. Also, many gardeners store items under perimeter benches. The base wall keeps them out of sight from the exterior.



Proper height when no furniture or greenhouse benches are to be positioned against the walls, but still provides some protection against projectiles and snow.



Base walls can be excluded when the maximum amount of daylight is desired and the structure is not in danger of projectiles and snow is not a concern.