

Meeting Your Sweat Equity Requirement

Each adult in your family is required to provide 200 hours of sweat equity. Failure to meet this requirement would disqualify you from receiving a Habitat house.

While 200 hours may not seem like a large commitment at first glance, it requires that each of you commit a considerable amount of your free time during the building of your house.

Meeting sweat equity on the build site

In general, it takes Habitat approximately 153 days (23 weeks) to build a house once the foundation is in place. In order for you to meet your 200 hour requirement during this time period each of you would have to commit to working 8.7 hours per week each and every week.

We schedule two work days a week for our volunteers – a weekday, generally a Wednesday, and Saturday. On those days we have a construction supervisor and skilled volunteers available to instruct you and assist you in working on the house. For that reason, we require that you provide the bulk of your sweat equity hours at the build site during one of our regularly scheduled work days.

On each of these workdays, we work approximately six (6) hours. On occasion we may work a full eight hour day but this is the exception, not the norm.

Other ways to meet your sweat equity hours

In addition to the actual building of your house, there are other ways you can meet your sweat equity hours. These include:

1. **Ground Breaking and Dedication** - Help us set up for and take down the tents, tables, etc. needed for the ground breaking ceremony and dedication party for your house.
2. **Habitat Hobble** – You can help both on event day (generally the third Saturday in June) and with the advance planning. At a minimum, we require that you be at the finish line party from 9 a.m. until noon on the day of the event.
3. **Hot Dog Days** at Country Ace Hardware in Granby – The Saturdays of Memorial Day weekend and Labor Day weekend. We ask the family to help us that day with cooking and selling hot dogs and meeting the public and explaining how Habitat is helping you achieve your dream of home ownership.
4. **Mailings** – We have two big mailings a year. One for our spring newsletter in May and one for our annual appeal letter in November.
5. **Meetings with Habitat staff** – Our executive director will meet with you two to three times to sign documents and explain the closing process. Each meeting will take one to two hours. Time spent at these meetings counts toward your sweat equity hours.

6. **Homeowner education classes** – We require that you attend classes to help you understand the process of purchasing a home, managing your finances to meet your mortgage obligations, etc. These classes are mandatory and count toward meeting your sweat equity hours.
7. **Providing lunch to volunteers on workdays** – You can also cook lunch for volunteers on a workday. Nothing complicated or fancy, a pot of soup or chili would exactly fit the bill.
8. **Other ways agreed upon with Habitat staff** – There may be additional opportunities for you to gain sweat equity hours by helping Habitat staff with data entry work and other tasks.

I/we have read the above information regarding meeting my/our sweat equity requirement and agree that we will meet our requirement by:

Event	Frequency	# of Hours	Sweat Equity Hours Can Earn
Ground breaking			
Working at job site			
Habitat Hobble			
Ace Hot dog days			
Meetings with Habitat staff (two to three meetings of 1-2 hour duration)			
Homeowner education classes (eight week course meeting for two hours each week)			
Mailings			
Dedication of house			
Other			

Applicant name

Applicant name

Signature

Signature

Date

Date