



Prefab homes get chic

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By **MARY BETH BRECKENRIDGE** / Knight Ridder Newspapers

If you equate modular homes with double-wides, Sheri Koones wants to disavow you of the notion.

Koones is the author of "Modular Mansions," a book that looks at the growing upscale side of modular home construction.

Koones said modular homes are simply houses built in portions in a factory and put together on a foundation on the home site. While early modular homes were generally simple, the construction method has evolved to the point where it can be used to build elaborate custom homes that are indistinguishable from stick-built houses.

Those are the kinds of homes Koones spotlights in "Modular Mansions." Among them are a sprawling estate in Cape Cod, a rustic log home, a sleek contemporary house designed by an architect and a stone house that looks centuries old.

"Modular Mansions" is published by Gibbs Smith, Publisher, and sells for \$39.95 in hardcover.

Online at: http://www.pe.com/lifestyles/homeandgarden/stories/PE_Fea_Daily_D_modular108.12b1dcd.html