# HOMEWISE

Real Estate Tips and Advice

# Gazebos & Breezeways

If you're looking to add elegance, style and value to your home's outdoors, you can't go wrong with a gazebo or breezeway — or both.

#### **GAZEBOS**

Built for relaxing and entertaining with shade and protection from the elements, gazebos offer a stylish focal point for your outdoor space that provides both a solitary space for reading and nature gazing, and an elegant spot for hosting friends and family.

Gazebos come in all shapes, sizes and designs, freestanding or anchored, limited only by your imagination or budget.

The first image most people think of when considering gazebos is the popular round wooden model with a decorative spindle. It's a classic, and built with a durable wood such as Western cedar, these structures look stylish, elegant and last for years.

Another popular classic is the gabled roof gazebo. These models adapt easily to almost any style of home, from colonials to a rustic farmhouse and even modern homes.

Many gazebos are built upon a concrete foundation



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#### **REAL ESTATE 101**

#### **Explaining Closing Costs**

Closing costs are often a mystery to first-time home buyers and even first-time sellers. Here's a breakdown of what they are, and who's going to shell out for which. To learn about closing costs and who pays them, Realtor.com created an informative video. Watch it at **bit.ly/3uK36Lv**.

for an even, stable structure, but gazebos can be anchored at their supports and uneven earth can be covered with plank flooring. Most are made of wood, but others feature a more modern look using such materials as heavy-duty, powdered aluminum.

These outdoor living rooms are often furnished with matching, comfortable loveseats, chairs and couches with accent pillows. And while most are permanent, you can easily find collapsible gazebos designed for any space.

#### **BREEZEWAYS**

Breezeways are truly the

all-purpose home addition, proving protection, entertaining space and a handy, covered storage area. More expensive but adding even more value to your home and a flexible outdoor entertaining area, breezeways are perfect additions for homes featuring close structures — a garage, office or even another house or suite.

These outdoor hallways connect structures while also protecting you from the elements. Besides their practicality, breezeways create a great outdoor space for gatherings. As with gazebos, ideas are limitless and constrained only by your budget.

These are the three main types of breezeways:

Contained. The most common, open on each size with a roof matching the connected structures

Offset. An angled breezeway that creates a safe walkway between structures that can't be reached in a straight line.

Funneled. Another angled breezeway that, as its name implies is larger at one end than the other.

While most breezeways match the architectural elements of the structures they connect, adding such features as windows or skylights can add a dose of elegance to ordinary homes.

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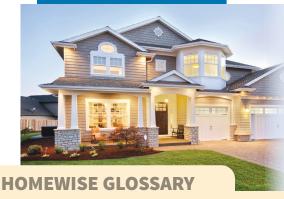
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Clear title: Ownership that is free of liens, defects and encumbrances, beyond those which the the owner agrees to accept. source: MLS.com

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