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Semi detached houses are a very popular choice for home buyers and those who rent and are available in a wide range of styles. A semi detached house is attached to another house on one side, sharing a wall. Usually, both portions are identical in design although there can be a few differences. These are cheaper than detached houses as two homes can be accommodated in place of one. The shared wall between the two portions is called a ‘party wall’ and any change to the wall is subject to a legal agreement between the two occupants of the property.

A short history :

The original design is credited to architect John Shaw and his son in the 19th century in North London. Semi detached houses were generally attributed to the middle class. Around the 1920s and 1930s a number of semis in different styles came up in the suburbs featuring spacious living areas with modern amenities. After World War II, it was common to see council semis across the UK and eventually these became a preferred option among home buyers. Semi detached ‘villa’ style residences in the suburbs are much sought after. As an evolving style, even detached houses are being divided to create two homes because of the price they fetch. The reverse is also common, where two semis are combined into a single detached property thereby raising its value.

What are the benefits?

With the variety in building style, the area in which they are located and the quality of construction, the following are the perceived advantages of semis:

• The cost factor is the first benefit. There is the advantage of an independent residence at a much lower price than a detached home.

• Compared to terraced homes where the owner must park on the street, semis are equipped with their own garages and gardens.

• Semis offer privacy because of their location, in addition to less noise pollution from neighbors.

A semi detached house makes good investment sense for those looking for the benefits of a detached residence without the associated high costs. To choose the most suitable one, talk to the neighbors to get an idea of the area. A property with a garden is an advantage as it adds to the property value. Ex council Semis are more affordable, spacious and conveniently located.

Things to watch out for:

Building a semi detached house is a great idea but when a home buyer considers buying an existing property, it is important to have the property surveyed. Since semi detached houses were originally built as a cheaper housing option, there are chances that the quality of construction may not be up to the mark. Repairs and renovation if any must be taken into account before investing in the property. There is also the issue of mortgage, the complexities of which have to be properly understood before the purchase is made.

The best starting point is a reliable developer with an excellent reputation who can offer various options and unbiased advice based on the buyer’s needs, the location of choice and budget.

Article Source:

<http://www.articleside.com/real-estate-articles/semi-detached-houses-a-good-investment.htm> - [Article Side](#)

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