

The Navaho Hogan is in many respects a remarkable dwelling. It blends so completely with the landscape that from even a moderate distance it is scarcely discernible. It is extremely practical for it heats with less fuel than almost any other type of ~~dwex~~ structure. There are many traditions about the hogan. It must always face to the east, whence comes the new day. It is always blessed when it first finished, either by a medicine man or someone who knows a part of the Blessing Way ceremonial, and to the accompaniment of a special ritual song, corn pollen, or corn meal is sprinkled about the interior. Hogans are made of a variety of material, depending on the location of the house. In desert areas it is usually made of stone. Where good logs are available it will be built of horizontal logs in an octagonal form. There is always a smoke hole in the center of the roof, for the fire, either an open hearth fire, or more recently a stove of some sort will be in the center of the room which will measure roughly fifteen feet in diameter or more, ~~xxx~~ The only opening ~~xxxxxxx~~ is the door to the east. On entering everyone must turn to the left, and walk clockwise about the room. One finds a similar sense of order in all hogans, On the right hand side of the door all the cooking and eating utensils are kept, as well as some food, stored in cans. Open sided boxes, or orange crates, are fastened to the wall for cupboards. Extra clothing is hung from pegs or nails from the walls. Sheepskins, which are used for beds are rolled up and stacked along the back of the wall, as are suitcases or small trunks used for storage of possessions.