

Ask Marshall Brain ... Are Domed Cities Possible?

After reading the article, answer the questions below.

1. After reading the article, complete this chart.

	CONSIDERATIONS FOR CONSTRUCTING A DOMED CITY
Physical Size	<i>650 acres, one mile on each side</i>
Construction for Dome: 3 Possibilities	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. <i>Concrete and block walls, trusses and, skylights, as in the Mall of America</i> 2. <i>Geodesic dome with hex panels covered with strong plastic, such as the Eden project</i> 3. <i>A shell stadium where tall buildings act as pillars to hold up the dome.</i>
Population	<i>Over a half a million (assuming that the average building is 10 stories high with a total of 260,000,000 square feet and the average person needs 500 square feet to live and work)</i>
Construction Costs	<i>\$100 billion or about \$200,000 per person</i>
Heating/Cooling Costs	<i>No heating costs because people give off plenty of heat. To reduce cooling costs, the city could be built in a cold climate.</i>
Transportation	<i>Walking, monorails and, moving sidewalks for people. Roads for trucks or underground train systems might be the best solution for delivering food and products coming into the city.</i>

2. Would you like to live in a domed city? In your opinion, what would be the major advantage and the major disadvantage? Be sure to use complete sentences.

Answers will vary.