

# **10 Steps to Add Life to Your Barn**

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1.) Remove trees and brush around the barn. These hold moisture which rot the sills and can cause abrasion on the sidewalls and roof. Use contour drainage and pea stone around the barn to divert water.



2.) Keep bases of support posts free of soil contact as it will rot them. Build new rock or concrete piers if necessary.



3.) Repair roof and side wall problems when they first occur or they will lead to more serious structural problems.



4.) Fix crumbling foundations, as they are the key to maintaining a square and plumb building.



5.) Don't remove existing braces that might be in the way, as they are part of the total support system that maintain the integrity of the barn.



6.) Add cables or internal bracing as a stop-gap method to keep a barn from falling down.



7.) Keep the floors clean of debris to prevent the accumulation of moisture and insect infestation.





8.) Open windows or louvers to ventilate the barn and prevent the build-up of moisture.



9.) Shovel off snow as necessary, especially lean-tos that can cause snow accumulation and structural failure.



10.) Keep up with painting, roofing and routine maintenance so your barn will look like this one.

