

Serenity vs. Classic

From time to time, customers ask us to explain the differences between the Serenity and Classic models. Following is a comparison of the two:

Similarities: Both the Classic and Serenity Models are made of Western Red Cedar #2 Grade. Both are handmade in Pennsylvania at the same shop by the same skilled carpenters. They both feature the same 2x6 rafters, the same double 2x8 half-moon corner braces, the same steel post brackets, and the same options.

Differences: The differences between the Classic and Serenity models are as follows:

	Classic	Serenity
Top runners	2x2's	2x4's
Top runner mounting	2x2's screwed down onto 2x6's	2x4's notched into and screwed to the 2x6's
Beams (or Headers)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Two sides feature two 2x8's • The 2x8's are notched to accept the 2x6 rafters. • The other two sides feature double 2x6 return beams. • No top plates. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • All four sides feature a beam assembly, consisting of: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • a 2x8 top plate (flat) • double 2x6 beams • a supporting 2x4 • 2x4 sideboards between the posts and the half-moon corner braces.
Posts	6x6 wide posts notched for the 2x8 beams	6x6 wide posts with no notching
Decorative post wraps	9" high (16" for heavy-duty post brackets)	36" high with top molding
Price	Less expensive than the Serenity model.	The Serenity model is about 15% more expensive than the Classic model because it includes more wood and requires a bit more work on our part.*

* We fashion a notch at every point where the 2x4 top runners touch the 2x6 rafters, and we pre-assemble the beam assemblies for you.

Comments: Neither model is better than the other. The main difference is aesthetic. In other words, they simply look different. Some people like the way the Classic looks more than the Serenity. Others like the Serenity more than the Classic. See accompanying photos on the page below.

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