



## Huts of the Amazonian Tribes

The indigenous people of the Amazon rainforest live in unique dwellings that suit their environment. The huts, or malocas, are often made using materials found in the surrounding jungle. These homes are designed to provide shelter from the heavy rains and hot temperatures that are common in the region.

Amazonian huts are usually built on (1)\_\_\_\_ land, near rivers or streams, where water is easily accessible. The walls and roof are made from natural materials like wood, (2)\_\_\_\_, and strong fibers found in local plants. These materials help the huts blend into the jungle while also being sturdy enough to protect the people living inside.

The huts are usually large enough to house several families, and they are often circular or oval in shape. The roof is tall and (3)\_\_\_\_ to allow air to circulate, keeping the inside cool. The wide, sloping roof also helps rainwater run off easily, preventing leaks.

Inside, the hut is divided into different areas for sleeping, cooking, and socializing. The sleeping area is usually simple, with people lying on (4)\_\_\_\_ made from woven fibers, raised slightly above the ground to avoid insects. There are no traditional beds or furniture like you would find in a modern house.

The cooking area is usually located in the center of the hut. A fire is made using wood collected from the forest, and pots are hung over the flames to cook meals. There are no (5)\_\_\_\_, but the roof helps the smoke escape naturally. Food is often cooked in large clay (6)\_\_\_\_, which can hold enough for many people at once.

Around the edges of the hut, you might find some (7)\_\_\_\_ for storing food, tools, and other important items. These are often quite simple, made from tree branches tied together with vines. The furniture inside the hut is minimal, and most activities are done sitting on the floor, which is covered with (8)\_\_\_\_ mats to make it more comfortable.

Outside the hut, the people usually keep a small (9)\_\_\_\_ area where they can grow medicinal plants and herbs used in their traditional practices. The surrounding jungle provides most of the food, such as fruits, nuts, and fish from nearby rivers.

The design of these huts is perfect for life in the Amazon rainforest. The use of local materials, the way the air flows through the hut, and the large open space all reflect the harmony between the indigenous tribes and their (10)\_\_\_\_. These simple homes offer everything they need to live comfortably in one of the most challenging environments on earth.

### Word Bank

flat, garden, woven, baskets, environment, fire, pots, slanted, mats, dry, leaves, chimneys