

# LOG HOME LIVING

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## Glossary

Learn about all of the terms you need to know when planning, building and designing your home.

Sifting through the spectrum of unfamiliar home terms can sometimes be a daunting task, but not to worry! We've got you covered. Here you will find our ever-growing lexicon of home-related vocabulary, so you can spend less time in the dictionary, and more time planning your dream home.

## Builder-dealers

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Independent or company representatives who provide design, sales and possibly construction services.

## Butt and Pass Corner

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A style used in log home construction. One log stops where it meets an intersecting log, and the other log extends past the corner. In most, passing logs have a mortise (cutout) into which the butt log fits for a tight corner.

## Chinking

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The strip of material between logs designed to seal the space while adding a distinctive look. Sometimes used solely for looks.

## Corner Post

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A type of corner used in log home construction. A post is found at each corner into which grooves are cut to hold log ends. It looks very similar to post-and-beam construction.

## Corners

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Corners are made by log intersections that are a signature feature of the log-home look. Corner styles are: *intersecting*, *interlocking*, and *overlapping*.

## Dovetail Corner

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A style used in log home construction. This style is used with square or rectangular logs. The corner is cut in a fan-shaped wedge and interlocks with perpendicular logs.

## Drying Methods

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Methods to season logs and improve their stability, either *naturally* (air-drying) or by *acceleration* (kiln-drying).

## Fasteners

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Screws, nails or bolts used to hold stacked logs to each other to form the wall unit.

## Grading

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A certification, typically by a third-party agency, of the structural suitability of logs for use as walls and window or door headers.

## Handcrafted Logs

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Tree trunks that are hewn or peeled using hand tools to form logs.

## Hybrid

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Log home style that mixes structural logs with non-structural logs or other non-log building materials, commonly in the form of half-log and log-accent homes.

## Log Profile

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The horizontal shape of a log that defines its look. Basic profiles are round, square and D (round outside, flat inside).

## Manufactured Logs

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Solid wood cants milled to uniform sizes and shapes with precision machinery.

## Materials Package

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Also known as a Kit, this includes the walls logs, fasteners and sealing materials provided by log-home producers to form the weathertight shell. Packages may also include additional materials, such as windows, doors, porches and roofs.

## Rafters and Purlins

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Rafters are supporting roof beams that are perpendicular to the ridge beam. Purlins are parallel to the ridge.

## Saddle-notch Corner

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A type of [corner](#) used in log home construction. In this style, a notch on the bottom of the log straddles the top of the log coming from the

perpendicular wall. Both logs extend past the corner. This is a style favored by many handcrafters.

## Sealing Systems

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Various flexible materials that adhere to logs to provide weathertight seals between them.

## Settlement and Shrinkage

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The movement of logs as they compress and lose moisture to attain equilibrium with the surrounding humidity.

## SIPs (Structural Insulated Panels)

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Foam-core panels often used in log-home roofs to increase energy efficiency. SIPs are sometimes used for walls in hybrid log homes.

## Trusses

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Structural or non-structural ceiling timbers often found in open ceilings. Common forms are *simple*, *king-post*, *queen-post* and *scissors trusses*.

## Weathertight Shell

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Stacked logs covered by a roof to provide the basic form of the structure before the longer finishing process gets under way.

## Wood Finishes

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Coatings formulated specifically to protect exposed wood in use, ranging from preservatives to stains.