



PROTECTION FOR A LIFETIME

Unlike conventional homes that are covered with siding, log homes wear their natural materials on the outside. Logs bring the warmth and personality of nature to a home, giving it a distinctive beauty. But, as a natural material, wood has a few inherent enemies: Moisture, sun, and insects pose the biggest threat to your log home. They degrade log finishes and the wood itself over time.

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Today's log home owners have easy access to innovative, high-performance products to preserve wood and help ensure lasting beauty for their homes. Savvy log home owners can protect their logs through wood treatment and smart home design decisions.

WOOD TREATMENT

Right from the start, your log producer should take steps to keep your logs as clean and dry as possible. Logs stacked on the construction site should be covered loosely to shield them from dust, sun, and excess moisture. Keep in mind, however, that a tight waterproof cover may lead to mildew and mold forming on the logs.

Products can help preserve wood, too. Today's wood treatments include preservatives (usually borate-based) and stains. These products can be layered onto logs or may be combined into multi-functional finishes.

Borates or boron is a naturally occurring element that is safe for mammals, but toxic to most insects. It also offers some antimicrobial properties. Infusing wood with a borate solution is effective in eradicating infestation by wood-consuming insects. When insects ingest borates, it disrupts their digestion process. Borates can also treat decay fungi.



Borate wood preservative rods help you prevent wood rot before it starts. They are necessary only in highly exposed logs and timbers that are easily prone to moisture and insect infiltration, both of which can compromise the structural integrity of your log home.

To be effective, the borate solution must be applied to bare wood. If wood is stained or treated, the borates will sit on the logs' surface, rather than penetrate the wood. Some log manufacturers will dip their logs in a borate solution before sending them to the job site. Additional protection can be provided by coating the logs on site with a preservative containing a borate. Solid rods of borate can be inserted into particular logs in a home that are highly exposed, or are susceptible to run-off from roofs or water splashing back from the ground or other surfaces.





A GOOD-QUALITY STAIN OR FINISH WILL:

- Contain a water repellent to keep moisture from sticking to log surfaces
- Offer UV protection to help the finish last longer and protect the underlying wood from degradation
- Help control mildew growth
- Help control algae growth [commonly mistaken for mold or mildew]
- Be elastic enough to adhere despite the natural movement of wood as it swells and shrinks.

Choosing a system of log preservatives and stains from a single manufacturer will help ensure that the products are chemically compatible with each other and provide comprehensive protection.

GOOD DESIGN

Log home finishing products will last even longer when applied to homes that have been designed right.

SMART DESIGN INCLUDES:

- A substantial, non-wood foundation that lifts the first course of logs high above the ground
- Wide overhangs or porch roofs that shelter log walls from rain and put run-off from the roof far away from log walls
- Careful siting that shelters your log walls from as much direct sunlight as possible
- Mindful landscaping that keeps shrubs and trees away from log walls to minimize moisture and avoid giving insects a direct path to your walls
- Gutters, downspouts and flashing that route rainwater away from logs.

Log home preservation, finishing and design isn't rocket science. High-performance products and smart design will ensure a beautiful, lower-maintenance dream log home for years to come.

Will your log home look this great in 10 years?

Capture the
Moment
Real people. Real stories.

Your log home will be the backdrop for so many moments in the years to come, so choose a staining system that's up to the task. Capture® log stain and Cascade® clear coat combine unmatched durability and easy maintenance for years of memory-worthy beauty.

Gary & Robin's Story (Their home shown above)

The best years of my life have been with friends and family in the mountains of Southern California. A world away in just a couple hours. Leaving behind the hustle and bustle of the city, you're among the trees, animals, blue sky, and fresh air. I got this love of the outdoors from my dad. He had an old cabin right by Lake Arrowhead on the edge of the National Forest....

For the rest of *Gary & Robin's Story*

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Home of Gary & Robin, CA
Stained with Capture® Chestnut/Hazelnut
& Cascade® Clear Coat

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