

# COUNTRY LIVING

A modern, two-story house with yellow siding and a flat roof. The house has a large deck with a white arched trellis structure over it. The house is surrounded by lush greenery and flowers. The text "COUNTRY LIVING" is written in large white letters at the top of the image.

D I G E S T



## CONTENTS

<a href="#"><u>1. SEVEN EXCELLENT REASONS TO CHOOSE A LOG HOME</u></a>	2
<a href="#"><u>2. GOING SOLAR - ON-GRID OR OFF-GRID?</u></a>	4
<a href="#"><u>3. ACHIEVEMENTS OF A WOODWORKING ENTHUSIAST</u></a>	6
<a href="#"><u>4. BANKRUPTCY HOMESTEAD EXEMPTION</u></a>	7
<a href="#"><u>5. DIY NOT AS EASY AS IT MAY FIRST APPEAR</u></a>	8
<a href="#"><u>6. FENG SHUI AND TINY HOUSES</u></a>	9
<a href="#"><u>7. TINY HOUSES ON WHEELS - THE SOLUTION FOR SIMPLIFYING LIFE</u></a>	11
<a href="#"><u>8. HOW TO ACHIEVE A FRENCH COUNTRY LIVING DESIGN</u></a>	12
<a href="#"><u>9. SAVE YOUR WALLET AND YOUR WAISTLINE WITH FREEZER COOKING</u></a>	14
<a href="#"><u>10. OUTDOOR COOKING METHODS</u></a>	16
<a href="#"><u>11. CEDAR ROOT CHAIR</u></a>	18
<a href="#"><u>12. VERY COOL CHAIR FROM A LOG</u></a>	19
<a href="#"><u>13. SWEET LOG CABIN FOUND ON EBAY FOR ONLY \$26.5K</u></a>	20
<a href="#"><u>14. DREAM A-FRAME LOG CABIN</u></a>	21
<a href="#"><u>15. YOU WILL NEVER GUESS HOW MUCH THIS TINY HOME COSTS</u></a>	22
<a href="#"><u>16. OFF GRID TINY HOUSE DEEP IN THE CAROLINA WOODS FOR \$1000</u></a>	23
<a href="#"><u>17. GRAND 4200 SQFT RUSTIC LOG CABIN EST. MORTGAGE</u></a>	24
<a href="#"><u>18. 'OUTDOORSMAN' AMAZING 424 SQFT LOG CABIN ONLY \$26K</u></a>	25
<a href="#"><u>19. 25 BRILLIANT TINY HOMES THAT WILL INSPIRE YOU TO LIVE</u></a>	26
<a href="#"><u>20. TOP 10 SMALL LOG CABINS #10 RUSTIC PERFECTION</u></a>	27

# 1. SEVEN EXCELLENT REASONS TO CHOOSE A LOG HOME

Log home living is a wonderful experience, and if you're in the mind to buy or build a new home, you might just take a moment to consider the benefits of living in a log cabin of your very own. Here are seven major reasons why log home life is the life for you...



1. **History;** Perhaps your ancestors lived in a log cabin in the old days? This type of iconic home was built and enjoyed by many settlers and pioneers of different new lands, and some still stand today. Some log-built structures in Northern and Eastern Europe are still standing today and have stood for many centuries, even since the 14th century.
2. **Individuality;** would you want the same-old, simple, just-like-all-the-others home? Or would you rather stand out from the masses with something as rustic and stately as a log home? Living in such a unique home adds a wholesome and historic feel to your life, filled with the age-old pioneer spirit, as well as to the whole neighborhood.
3. **Glamorous Beauty;** obviously, the rustic beauty of a log home is alluring enough to almost pull you into it by force. There's just something timeless about such construction, and the natural beauty outshines homes built in the more modern, conventional way. Finding a beautifully well-built log cabin amid other hum-drum style homes is like finding a unicorn amid a herd of wild mustangs. And the beauty isn't only just "skin-deep" - such natural rustic beauty is on the inside as well.
4. **Contentment and Satisfaction;** you can have any kind of home that you'd like, and make it comfortable, but log home living is the cosiest you can experience. Picture having your family over for the holidays, and sitting all gathered around at the fireplace after an evening meal. Imagine how cool the interior would be in the summertime, and how warm it would be in the wintertime. Imagine waking up and opening your eyes to log-constructed walls and hopping over to the kitchen for hotcakes and maple syrup for breakfast with your family in your log cabin home - ah, yes... that's the life!
5. **Environmental Issues;** The insulative properties of log houses are perfect for keeping the interior cool in the summer heat, and warm in the winter cold. Not much energy is required at all for this, due to the log construction. Also, many log cabins and log homes kits are milled from reclaimed timbers so that there is no cutting down of forest resources.
6. **Insects;** Termite damage, winter-nesting bees, ants, spiders and so forth can infest any modern conventionally built home... but whereas most log homes are constructed of types of wood such as cedar, this would never be a problem. Cedar

and other aromatic type woods of a similar kind, have natural insect repellent in the oils which naturally permeate such woods. Much like a cedar chest is used to stow away woolen things to keep moths from consuming them.

7. **Expense;** In the case of log homes kits, which by the way is how most log-built structures are made today, the expense of both time and money is drastically reduced. Construction time used to take many months, perhaps more than a year - but with pre-milled logs shaped to precise specifications in a factory setting, parts numbered in the order of construction, and all delivered to the construction site with most of the work done for you, building it can now take a mere few short weeks. Due to the way such pre-milled logs are produced, it also creates the situation of the lowest per-log cost there can possibly be. This is why log cabin kits are the most sought after means of achieving log home living today.

## 2. GOING SOLAR - ON-GRID OR OFF-GRID?

Going solar is a decision that needs to be applauded, but then comes another decision - should you be on-grid or off-grid?

There are big differences between the two, and even if you decide to be on-grid, there are still more choices to be made.

So, let's examine the various options and the pros and cons of each.



### **Off-grid**

If you make the decision to go for total electrical independence and to live off-grid, then you are to be congratulated because you've just got rid of that monkey on your back called the utility company and no longer have to dread the seemingly ever-increasing electricity bill. That's the main advantage of living off-grid and one of the main reasons most people decide to do so.

Off-grid systems are especially cost-effective for people in rural or remote locations, where running a connection from the grid to a remote location can cost upwards of \$20 per foot. So, if your property happens to be several miles from the utility, running an extension out to your property can prove very costly, and would probably justify the expense of an off-grid solar electric system.

Another advantage of living off-grid is that it forces people to think very carefully about when and how they use their electricity, thus promoting more efficient use thereof. After all, if most of your electricity is generated during the daytime, you'd probably want to re-think doing your laundry at night.

The major disadvantage of off-grid systems is the expense, as, in addition to the system itself, you also need backup storage for night-time and inclement weather. Adding a battery backup can be very costly. Not only that, but battery life is another issue, since most have a useful life of only 10 years or so, even if carefully maintained, and would need to be replaced, leaving the problem of disposal of the old battery.

### **On-grid With Battery Backup**

OK, so you've decided to go solar, and remain connected to the grid, so you get the best of both worlds - you're generating your own electricity and feeding any excess back into the grid for credit or later use. Great. But, then, you want to take it one step further and make sure you're covered in case of a power outage, for which you'd need a battery backup. You then have the headache of disposing of your old battery once it's run its course, as described above, along with the additional expense of the battery. But, if

having your cake and eating it, electrically, is what you're after, then this may be the way to go.

## **On-grid**

Having a solar electric system installed while still living on-grid means that the utility itself acts as a giant battery for you, allowing you to feed any excess electricity back into the grid for you to use later in the day or to get credited for it if it's not used. This is a concept called net metering, which is becoming more popular in the US as more states push for wider acceptance and implementation of solar energy.

The big advantage of this type of system is that you don't need to buy a system to cover all your electrical needs. You can buy a system to cover just a certain percentage of your electrical usage, which will keep your costs down. Since PV systems are modular, you could then choose to expand your system using the savings you've already realized from the system you've been using.

One of the disadvantages of on-grid systems is that you're not completely free of the whims and fancies of the utility companies, so, even though your system offsets the cost of your electricity bill, whatever you use from the grid is still subject to rate increases. Also, if you're operating without a battery backup, and there's an outage, your system will shut down also, leaving you without power. This is not as big a problem as it used to be, since the grid is stable in most areas, but it's still a possible inconvenience.

These are the main types of solar electric systems in use today (there will probably be more in the future). They each have their advantages and disadvantages, so it's a matter of determining which fits your budget and your mindset. But, the main thing is making the decision to go solar in the first place, which is great for you and for the environment. From there, it's just a matter of deciding how much energy independence you want and need and when you want it.



### 3. ACHIEVEMENTS OF A WOODWORKING ENTHUSIAST

It is becoming more popular in this DIY age for people to want to make things themselves, and we are seeing a return to woodworking as a hobby or pastime. The garage is transformed into a workshop, with a workbench a set of woodworking tools and of course a beer fridge. Beautiful handmade woodworking projects can be achieved with some practice, a good set of plans and the right woodworking tools.

If you already have a workshop and the skills for woodworking, you will need to make sure that you have some reliable woodworking plans at your disposal and the necessary woodworking tools to complete the projects you wish to make. There are some websites that offer free woodworking plans, but they are often incomplete or lack sufficient detail to understand properly and this will lead to frustration and loss of interest in woodworking. After spending many years building up your collection of fine woodworking tools and learning to use them, you will no doubt have some neat skills under your belt. Now to make full use of these skills, you will need to find a nice project to work on, one which will do you proud and show off your fancy woodworking skills.

Behind every great woodworking piece is a great woodworking plan. Even the classic furniture makers of the 18th and 19th centuries worked from detailed precision drawn plans. This is how we are able to make such genuine looking reproductions of the works of the famous furniture makers of old; the master woodworker's plans are still extant. Many different styles and designs are available, from all different periods in history, to modern designs from this century. Working with the right woodworking tools a skilled woodworker can make any piece of furniture; however fancy the detail is, if he has an accurate woodworking plan to work from. Once you have reached a certain skill level in your woodworking techniques, you will be able to create a masterpiece which can be handed down through your family for future generations.

If your skill level is not yet high enough to tackle a difficult design, you need to get more practice by doing more basic designs, which teach you the techniques you will need for the harder jobs. It is rightfully said practice makes man perfect and you should do lot of practice to master this skill.

Woodworking plans for difficult projects, will list which tools you need to use and show you the areas where you still need practice. Come back to the advanced woodworking plan later on, after you have had more practice with your woodworking tools doing basic projects which steadily build your skill level. To gain the skills for advanced woodworking, you really need to try as much variety as possible, so that you broaden your experience. Making 100 coffee tables that are all the same will not make you a skilled woodworker but making 100 different tables of all kinds and sizes, will certainly make you a skilled woodworker.

## **4. BANKRUPTCY HOMESTEAD EXEMPTION**

The several factor why choose insolvency to get out of debt is because of the actual bankruptcy homestead exemption. On this immunity, your flat and any kind of earnings, you've gotten in it is actually saved, and therefore you can prevent having creditors take your house and market the idea to pay your obligation. However, even so, this still may not be the right response it will depend on the state you reside in under.

The bankruptcy homestead exemption law has its sole concerns, which are not common in the most state, and each condition has various interpretations. For instance, in all states there is a limit to the property's value, but that limit will vary between states. Every single state has the same value of laws and regulations. However, the insolvency homestead exemption and what it requires are different.

For example, the state of Florida is extremely tolerant with borrowers. Nevertheless, other people favor lenders more than the actual debtors. The new changes to bankruptcy law made in the year 2005 also have influenced the bankruptcy homestead exemption. Prior to that period, there have been no set of limitations towards the amount of collateral you could have in the home, conversely, at the same time, following this cycle, every single condition set their limits.

Determining regardless of whether a bankruptcy homestead exemption could prefer you with respect to paying your debt and saving your homestead is confusing, and it is not always casual to see if the bankruptcy homestead immunity will certainly prefer a person or otherwise. This is why you need to know as much as you can concerning the exemptions in our state before you decide that filing a bankruptcy is your best option.

The bankruptcy homestead exemption isn't something you need to take on your own. You will find a way on a lot of consequences to stuffing the wrong method. You want to hire an excellent bankruptcy attorney that may discover this type of information for you personally, and when you do not employ one, then you ought to at the very least consult with one.



## 5. DIY NOT AS EASY AS IT MAY FIRST APPEAR

The DIY industry is a multi million pound industry with the biggest home improvement suppliers taking millions of pounds every year selling DIY tools and materials direct to the trade and the public.

There is no doubt that DIY is a massive industry with millions of brits spending the weekend sanding floors and painting bathrooms there is no sign of the market slowing down. Some of the growth in the industry could be down to a range of DIY and home improvement programmes on television from changing rooms to DIY SOS many of the celebrity DIY-ers on television make home improvement seem like an easy task.

There are many things to take into consideration before undertaking a large DIY project by you. Safety is one such point that should not be ignored. In 1999 the last time nationally updated statistics were made available there were 200,000 DIY injuries in the UK and 70 deaths. There were 2,506 accidents with power drills 1,920 accidents with circular saws and 622 with chainsaws. The home is one place that you would not expect to be dangerous but every year in the UK more than 4,000 people die in household accidents with another 3 million ending up in accident and emergency departments. Planning and ensuring that you put safety first is key to avoiding any accidents.

Many people will underestimate how difficult undertaking a DIY project can be over half of those that embark on a major DIY project will fail to finish the project or at least fail to finish the project to a good standard. So DIY could be a good option to add value to your home but it may also mean that you are actually damaging your wealth and potentially your health.

Research carried out among estate agents suggests that half done or inappropriate home improvements can wipe off anything between £2,000 and £10,000 of the value of a property. When you consider that a property is the biggest investment that you are likely to make in adult life this is no small amount. There are however resources that have a wealth of DIY Advice that can help you to plan a DIY project so that not only are you safe but you are prepared correctly to undertake and finish the DIY project.

The BBC and Channel 4 (Four homes) both have useful resources that you can use that will help you to plan a DIY project or to appoint a professional to help you improve the value of your home. The most important point to consider is that will your home improvement project actually improve your home.

## 6. FENG SHUI AND TINY HOUSES

If you haven't heard the term "Tiny House" you can correctly assume that it describes a very small house, but there is a movement now to build and live in tiny houses by people who don't necessarily need to. Many just want to live in a tiny house, for environmental reasons and even for spiritual reasons, to reduce one's carbon foot print and to live without so many material trappings.



In a web search for Tiny Houses you will see some houses that look like little Hobbit cottages, mini-mansions, wood sheds, and just about any architectural style in miniature form. Some Tiny Houses are built on the ground while others are on wheels and appear to be no more than glorified campers.

With global economic concerns, the Tiny House now also seems like the next solution to those who really won't be able to afford larger spaces, along with the utility bills. The definition of a Tiny House is somewhat loose because the dimensions can be from less than 100 square feet to over 800 square feet. Many people would not consider 800 square feet to be a Tiny House as many apartments and even some conventional houses are that size. But I think the distinction may have to do with how many occupants live there.

I used to say in my Feng Shui classes that every person deserves a least 600 square feet of their own. I was not being literal. However, questions often arise regarding whether a house can be too small or too large according to Yin-Yang Theory. Some of the criteria for judging whether a home has good Feng Shui has to do with qi flow. Whether a house is large or small, if it is cluttered or overly filled with furnishings, there may not be enough open space for proper qi flow (air currents). When a house's energy is stifled from lack of space, the occupant's health can be undermined.

I've seen small spaces that were neat as can be and I have also seen palatial homes that were terribly cluttered.

With Feng Shui theory and applications, we are trying to achieve a balance of size in relation to the number of occupants, but it also matters how they furnish that living space, and even to a certain extent how much entertaining they do or if they have pets.

Another design dilemma with the Tiny House is the forced need to use certain areas for multiple purposes. Some Tiny House floor plans have bunk style beds over a living room or over a kitchenette. Like a Studio apartment, both yin and yang activities take place in the same room. This isn't the end of the world, but normally we don't want people to have to sleep in the same room where they conduct business.

So many people now have home offices, but to put this all in 100 square feet can be a conflict of interest. In Xuan Kong Feng Shui we also interpret the energies differently and prescribe different adjustments, based sometimes on how the space is used. This can be a little more challenging when the same room is used for sleeping, eating, studying or business, along with personal relations.

Like an ashram community or any communal living, I think a happy medium for the Tiny House is to be in a Tiny House community, where a group of Tiny House owners can also share some common areas. It also helps if the Tiny House is placed on a good sized piece of land, where a person can enjoy the outdoors and not end up feeling like they are in a kind of prison cell.



## 7. TINY HOUSES ON WHEELS - THE SOLUTION FOR SIMPLIFYING LIFE

**T**iny home movement has gained momentum in the last few years. Part of that movement is homes called tiny houses on wheels. They are small houses constructed of standard materials and are built and secured to the frames of trailers, and can be pulled behind a vehicle just like a travel trailer.



These small homes range from approximately 65-140 square feet. Because they are on wheels, they are considered travel trailers, and do not require a building permit. Of course they have to meet Department of Transportation guidelines size limitations, but you can basically much put one anywhere you can place an recreational vehicle. Many people place them in back yards, and use them as spare rooms, or office space. They are also used as primary residences, also in parked in a back yard, RV parks, or placed on personal lots of land.

Often theses homes are self-contained with electrical and plumbing systems. They can be designed to traditional septic systems, and electrical connections, or equipped with holding tanks and electrical connections the same as a travel trailer. You can also live off the grid, and quip these homes with solar or wind power, and water harvesting systems, and composting, or incinerating toilets like you would find on a boat.

If you plan to build your own plans to build your own tiny house on wheels, or purchase a finished home, there are many options to suite your needs and location of your home. Tiny houses on wheels are affordable options if you have a desire to live a more simple life.

## 8. HOW TO ACHIEVE A FRENCH COUNTRY LIVING DESIGN

**F**rench country Living is comfortable, well-made, and beautiful. It can be equated with that perfect pair of jeans that have served you well over the course of time. They feel good, go great with anything you want to wear, and are well-made which is why they have lasted so long. Just like your favorite jeans, this style of decor is known for its elegant craftsmanship, minimal maintenance, and style that can blend beautifully with other elements that reflect your personal tastes.



This style of design began in the 18th and 19th century in French provinces where lifestyles were slower in pace, crafts was of the best quality, and the landscape set the tone for outdoor and indoor living. Many of the hues found in this style are natural yet vibrant. Cobalt blue and sunflower yellow are complemented with shades of evergreen with Terra Cotta accents. Additionally, the farmyard look can be added throughout the living areas to bring that country feel to every room in the home.

Furnishings are designed to be used, not just seen. Gentle curves as well as floral and folklore motifs provide the basis of this design style. This ensures that furniture is warm and welcoming with wood in colors and textures that invite a touch. One of the infamous pieces of French Country is the armoire. Although originally used because homes were built without closets, today they easily fit into almost any room in the home and can house televisions, linens, or food stuffs when space is limited in the kitchen.

Frequently with French Country you will find mixes of woods as well as materials. This reflects the sources that were originally available on the farm during the early centuries when this style became popular. Oak, walnut, and cherry were very common in furnishings then as now and serve as great materials for farm tables, coffee tables, and many other elements required in today's home.

Artisans were known for their craftsmanship in creating graceful curves as well as carving intricate floral designs that brought out the beauty of the wood as well as provided a base from which other elements could be mixed. Although replicated today with technologically advanced manufacturing techniques, then as now the style produced is elegant and classic, yet friendly and welcoming. When finishing touches are added, it creates quite a statement.

Accessories, lighting, and bright cotton prints complete the look. For the French the heart of the home is in the kitchen. Therefore, a meal is not something that is simply shared it is an event. This is a great area to enhance the French Country appeal by adding rustic artwork on the walls as well as layers of linens, a floral and berry centerpiece, and earthenware on the table. Whether one opts to light the area with wrought iron or crystal, this type of lighting will enhance the elegance of the space making those joining you want to stay around for awhile.

The overall end product of a French country Living motif is designed to encourage those entering the space to sit down, lean back, and have a good time. With the right colors, furnishings, accessories, and lighting this is much easier to achieve than would be expected. Best of all it will fit in with any other elemental designs you would like to add.



**H**ave you heard of freezer cooking? It's a great way to save time and money while eating healthier meals at home!

Freezer cooking just means cooking meals ahead of time and freezing them so it's easy to defrost warm and serve later. Variations can include once a month cooking, batch cooking, or cooking parts of meals.



Some cooks create a weekly or monthly plan, then cook meals all in one day and freeze them. Others cook one large batch of a meal, like chili, then divide it into family portions or single servings and freeze it. You can also cook certain ingredients ahead of time and freeze them-such as meats cooked and frozen in small portions to be added into chili, stew, or casseroles later.

**Save Time:** By cooking in batches you can save time. If you're already cooking a casserole, it only takes a few extra minutes to double the recipe, cook a second one and freeze it for later.

**Save Money:** Buying in bulk is usually cheaper than smaller sized portions. When you cook in batches you can easily purchase bulk sizes without worrying that they'll go to waste. You'll also save money when you've got meals ready to eat and don't end up calling for a pizza or other food delivery.

**Save Your Waistline:** Once you've got a stash of healthy meals in the freezer ready to defrost and eat you'll find the temptation to grab "fast food" or eat junk is easier to avoid.

Freezer cooking is a great strategy if you have special dietary needs, too. I cook gluten-free waffles, pancakes, soups, pizza and breads and freeze so that meal time is easier. By planning ahead and cooking in batches I'm able to save money over the price of prepared specialty foods and know that we've always got "safe" meals easily accessible.

Some meals work better than others for freezing so it's a good idea to take some time to explore websites about freezer cooking and find reliable recipes and tips.

If you're new to the idea of freezer cooking, these tips helped me get started:

- Prepare by having freezer safe storage containers ready before you begin cooking.
- Start small by cooking double on your family's favorite dish and freezing one for a future meal.
- Try cooking ahead parts of meals. Cook up chicken or hamburger in bulk then freeze it in meal-sized portions for easy use later.

- Keep track of the date you freeze each meal either with a list on the side of your freezer or by labeling each meal as you freeze it - that way you can use it within a safe time frame.
- Don't feel like you have to jump all in and cook a month's worth of meals the first time you try freezer cooking. But do use the once a month cooking websites and guides for great freezer meal ideas and helpful hints to make your freezer cooking easier.

Give it a try, and discover how much easier freezer cooking makes meal time!

## 10. OUTDOOR COOKING METHODS

There are many reasons you may want to use one of the many outdoor cooking methods for your meals. Maybe you are going camping or you just want to grill outside in your backyard. Whatever your reason for using the outdoor techniques for cooking you need to understand what a few of them are and how they are can help you cook the proper type of food for you and your family.



You can choose from grilling with a few different types of grills to cooking over an open fire. It all depends on what you want to cook and why you have decided to cook outside. Below you are going to find a few different ways for cooking outside to choose from.

### **1. Gas Grill Cooking**

One of the most popular methods of cooking outside is with a gas grill. This grill will take either natural gas or propane, which will be your main source of fuel for cooking. You may want to supplement the gas heat with wood chips so you can get more flavor since you are cooking with gas.

There are many advantages you will get when you cook with gas. It is one of the most convenient ways to cook because all you have to do is uncover your grill, flip a switch, and start cooking. It barely takes 10 minutes for your grill to get hot enough to cook on and compared to other outdoor cooking methods this is very fast.

Another great thing about cooking with a gas grill is the cleanup. It is very easy to clean a gas grill because there are no ashes or mess from charcoal dust or wood. You can let your grill stay hot for ten minutes after you are done cooking and scrape it down a bit and you will be all set. The heat will clean the grill on its own quite well.

The only downside to cooking with a gas grill is that you are going to taint the flavor of the food you cook with the gas a little bit. This doesn't bother most people and you can use wood chips to help give your food a bit more flavor. If you use wood chips make sure you soak them in water for a while before you put them on the grill.

### **2. Charcoal Grill**

A charcoal grill may be a better way to cook if you don't want to taint the flavor of your food. There is nothing like getting that good smoky flavor into your food from the grill. Plus charcoal grills are much cheaper than gas grills because they are much simpler. There are many benefits to using a charcoal grill.

You can still use wood chips to help add flavor to your food and if you get the right tools you can light the charcoal and be ready to cook in about 20 minutes. This is a great way



to cook outside if you don't want to use gas, but you want to grill out anyway. You can lock in the great smoky flavor by using a charcoal grill and in most cases it is not as expensive.

Clean up is a bit more strenuous than using a gas grill, but most charcoal grills will have a way that you can dump the dust and ashes pretty easily. This is not much different than unhooking the tank from a gas grill every time it needs to be filled. You will have better tasting food with a more natural flavor with this outdoor cooking method.

### **3. Over an Open Wood Fire**

If you are camping or you have a fire pit in your backyard another choice would be to cook over an open flame with a wood fire. This can allow you to keep the food tasting wonderful and cook in many different ways. You can take advantage of cooking things like cobblers in a Dutch oven or cooking many other dishes with the tools that are made for cooking over an open fire.

When you are camping and you are using a fire to cook most of your meals you can boil many things with simple pots and pans that are made for cooking. However, there are also tools that will allow you to build a pocket style sandwich and put it into the fire to cook. This is great for a pizza type of sandwich or anything else that can be toasted.

Many campers prefer to boil most of the food, but with an open fire you can roast marshmallows, hotdogs, and many other foods with a simple skewer that is long enough to put into the fire without burning your hand. There are many tools to help you cook food while camping and the most natural way to cook outside is over an open fire.

The outdoor cooking method you choose will have a lot to do with what you plan to do with your food. If you are simply cooking outside in your backyard choosing a grill type and cooking is much different than if you are camping out. Campers need more equipment and they have many choices for the tools they can use to cook over an open fire or even with gas burners.

If you want to keep your food tasting as natural as possible you will want to avoid using gas and stick with an open wood fire or charcoal. This is also the way you want to go if you are going to be smoking some type of meat. The smoky flavor comes from the charcoal or the wood you are using and if you use gas it will taint the flavor of the meat you are cooking.

It is up to you what type of cooking you want to do outside and if you are looking for something that is convenient and fast, then a gas grill is the best choice. However, if you are after flavor and you are not concerned about saving time you can either use a fire pit or a charcoal grill for your outdoor cooking needs.

## 11. CEDAR ROOT CHAIR

Cedar roots have been used for thousands of years by humans. Cedar is a coniferous tree and is native to, North America, Western Himalayas, and the Mediterranean Sea. Cedar is not like any other conifers that have a main trunk, instead they have spread branches that grow off from the central trunk.

These amazing trees can grow up to 100 feet tall or even higher. Its wood has its own distinct spicy scent and its aromatic and sticky oil has been used by humans in the old times. Cedars contain a waxy layer to help it prevent the leaves from becoming dry.

Basically there are two kinds of cedars: the Deodar Cedar which is common to the western Himalayas. The Deodar Cedar is big in stature wherein it can reach up to 250 feet tall. The name “Deodar” itself came from the Sanskrit word which means “timber of gods.” In 1822, the Deodar was first introduced in Europe and later on in the United States.

Next is the Lebanon cedar. This is common in the area of Mediterranean Sea particularly in Lebanon, Syria and Turkey. The Cedar of Lebanon has horizontal branches and soft surface. Depending on each location, the Cedar of Lebanon has its own little distinct characteristics. Meanwhile in Lebanon, Cedar is their main symbol on the flag of their country.

The Northwest coast of America has Yellow Cedar and Red cedar and was an integral part of First Nations history.

Cedar has been used for so many valuable things such as ornaments, perfumes, shingles, furniture, musical instruments and construction. The cedar woods are considered the best piece of material to be used in construction or furniture because it is a natural water-resistant, insect repellent (due to its aromatic smell), and it does not break easily. No wonder cedar woods were used as part of the construction of King Solomon’s Temple and King David and Solomon’s Palaces.

Visit the Lumber Jocks below for more information.

Source: [Lumber Jocks](#)



## 12. VERY COOL CHAIR FROM A LOG

Log furniture is perfect for certain environments and if you are looking for that rustic log piece to accent your place, and you are handy with tools may we suggest that you bring out that inner artist in you and make your own furniture. This is the era where all the information can be easily accessed from the internet on DIY projects.

This very cool log chair is made from a log stump round. It is rather unique in that it folds into a chair, then back down into a log round! Very clever and as this chair may be a little on the heavier side, to relocate you can always roll it to where you want it to sit. What a conversation piece. I have seen many types of log stump chairs, but this one peaked my interest!



You will need a little hardware for the project to create the hinges and locking systems to hold the chair and round in place.

What a conversation starter. Imagine your next bonfire event outside. Would it not be fun to make a grande entrance with these chairs! You can roll them out, open them up and then be prepared to explain how you made them as everyone will be intrigued.

If you are a dude and you want to impress a girl with your DIY talents, showing this and telling her that you have done it all by yourself is definitely something that would spark her interest.

Let's face it making furniture out of a logs is pretty impressive, especially if you can even make it look like it is a designer piece. If you are interested in woodworking and creating other stuff from scratch using logs, it is best that you check out the website of Woodworkerz that you could find below. Have fun being productive and artistic today!

Source: [Woodworkerz](http://Woodworkerz)



### 13. SWEET LOG CABIN FOUND ON EBAY FOR ONLY \$26.5K

**T**his fantastic little log cabin kit is technically classified as an RV (a clever way to avoid property taxes). Log cabin living and having a log home built for yourself can be an expensive affair, but it doesn't have to be if you find the right log cabin house kit!



This log cabin kit is actually available for sale right now on EBay, with \$25k being the starting bid; the seller is open to offers. To top off a sweet deal, this little log cabin comes fully furnished!

This model also includes a very appealing loft for that much more added space for sleeping, storage, etc. Nearly 400 square feet, 1 & 2 bedroom, double loft models, sleeps up to eight people. Cabins include full size kitchens and appliances, central heat & air, full bath with shower/tub combination, come completely furnished, including an entertainment center with a flat screen TV and surround sound. Available in many different floor plans, furniture styles, interior/exterior finishes and colors to choose from. Single and double loft units are available in most floor plans.

Source: [EBay](#)

## 14. DREAM A-FRAME LOG CABIN

**D**ream a little dream...Would you just love to get away from it all and live in a cosy wood cabin? Me too! This A- Frame Log Cabin is the picture-perfect type place to do it.

The picturesque setting in a private lot, surrounded by trees would be the perfect place to live out the rest of your days, wouldn't it? I love that it is not too large too, just a



sweet and quaint cabin in the woods. The detailing on it is so lovely and reminds me of simpler times. I imagine going out onto the upper balcony, the door leading from my bedroom, into the starry night and just gazing at the night sky.

Waking up in the morning with a cup of herbal tea and sitting on the porch or balcony, whichever suited the day, and doing my morning meditation. The birds chirping in the trees, the smell of the forest air so fresh and nourishing. Having dinners with my partner on the patio or picnics in the trees that surround our house. Having a little garden off to the side of the house where we would grow all our vegetables. Room for friends and family to come and visit and enjoy the simplicity of the forest we call home.

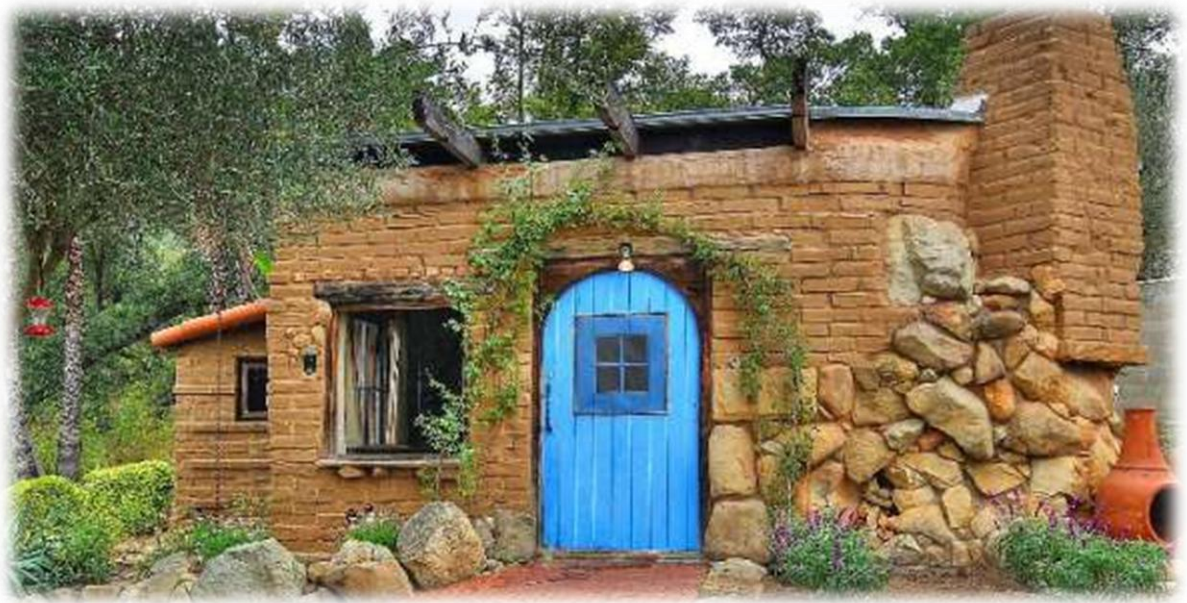
I especially love the brightly colored hanging flower pots, with the flowers cascading down and can imagine a couple of rocking chairs behind them, perfect for sipping an evening glass of wine or beer. I would love to call this sweet A - frame house my home! Can you imagine yourself here? How would you decorate it? Don't you think living in nature is the way to go? Living a healthy, meaningful life, connected to nature and your inner self. Realizing money can't buy the things that are most important in life, like the memories we create with the people we love.

See more inspirational photos at the ' Goods Home Design' website below.

Source: [Goods Home Design](#)



## 15. YOU WILL NEVER GUESS HOW MUCH THIS TINY HOME COSTS



**T**iny Homes have stolen the limelight ever since they debuted as the 'It' thing of housing prototypes a few months back. It's not hard to realize why many people have been adapting the tiny home lifestyle rather than the regular dream house simply because a smaller house benefits an individual in so many different ways like proper and enough communication, quality time with companions, lower fees for living, decreased energy consumption, and a decline in moments wherein one has to worry about supplying equipment or appliances to fill a void in a particular area of the house.

However, not all tiny homes are cheap. Cheaper homes relate to the ones that are often D-I-Y or those that did not use the help of architectural firms. Such houses are built from materials which are entirely the owners' ideas which is why most of these inexpensive homes are made of indigenous and natural materials like the Hobbit Home in Wales, for instance. Building and furnishing a house in one's own efforts is a significant consideration to cut costs and to allow a wider variety of design or concept selection.

On the other hand, for the style-appropriate people and for those who could spare a few cash for the ingenious 'small' living, companies like the Tumbleweed Tiny House Company provides great-looking homes in cranked up spaces. What makes some tiny houses far more expensive than the regular home is the land involved in building one. Tiny homes do not include land in the package and so aspiring owners are required to allot some amount for such significant facet. In most cases, these land areas are priced at \$200 to \$300 per square foot and for some, \$420 per square foot, which is a lot more than the regularly-purchased houses.

Moreover, despite the price range of these houses, people are still very much interested in investing in one. This is because especially it promotes a cheaper cost of living as well as relationship enhancement with the family members or with the neighbors.

For a detailed input of such a topic, you may visit Forbes website and enjoy!

Source: [Forbes](https://www.forbes.com)

## 16. OFF GRID TINY HOUSE DEEP IN THE CAROLINA WOODS FOR \$1000

**D**o you dream of building your own home and living off the grid? It is possible to build a small cabin for \$1000. Some people are creatively building off grid houses using recycled materials. By using salvaged wood and portholes from old ships for windows, the cost of building a small home can be reduced. Save money on monthly utility bills by using solar panels and having a natural spring water source.



There is no need to have too many solar panels if you use a wood stove for both heating and cooking.

By using salvaged materials, you will also be contributing to recycling, keeping waste out of the landfills and saving trees. Think outside the box, there are many materials that can be salvaged such as steel beams, wood, or old windows. Check out local construction sites, they may be eager to get rid of their waste material and happy to have someone take it away for them. Homes that are being renovated are also a good place to find salvaged materials.

All kinds of materials can be used to build a home. Old tires filled with rammed earth can provide a foundation and walls. They can also provide an earthquake-proof structure. Glass bottles can be stacked and held in place with plaster to create walls. Some are even building houses out of old shipping containers. Using shipping containers is inexpensive, and they are easy to stack and join together. Old boats can be converted into homes on land. Even aluminum cans can be turned into bricks by stacking and using mortar to hold them together. The size of a home determines the cost to build it. By building small and only having the space that is needed and using salvaged materials, a home can be built for very little.

Please visit the 'Off Grid World' website below for more.

Source: [Off Grid World](#)



## 17. GRAND 4200 SQFT RUSTIC LOG CABIN EST. MORTGAGE



During peoples searches for their next dream home, the Grey Beard Realty website has become a big hit... and for good reason. They feature all sorts of beautiful log cabins and mountain homes that people are looking for, just like this grand 4 200 sq ft. Rustic log cabin with an estimated mortgage of only \$1, 832 per month.

Instead of continuing to rent, it makes sense to invest in a house and to eventually own the property with those monthly bills. Essentially while renting, you're paying off someone else's mortgage. If you're someone who lives in the city and wants a more relaxed atmosphere, or maybe you just want a cottage retreat, you need to checkout this listing.

It boasts four bedrooms, so there's plenty of space for a big family, or one that is still expanding. The wood it's constructed with is a beautiful cypress and it's built in an Alpine mountain where there's plenty of wilderness at every corner. There's a porch that wraps almost the entire way around the house, and beautiful long range vista where you can see the towering mountain range from your window. There's also a workshop for the craftsman of the house to have some fun, among other awesome amenities, including a bonus room with a view and space for storage. There're three bathrooms, over 4 000 square feet, and over 1.5 acres in total. On the acreage, there's plenty of established perennial flowers that will be sure to make the avid gardener in you happy, with daffodils, lilies, and tulips to name a few.

The property is currently listed to sell as is, but it's a quite the bargain considering all it has to offer. Go click the link below which will direct you to the "Grey Beard Realty" website to learn more.

Source: [Grey Beard Realty](#)

## 18. 'OUTDOORSMAN' AMAZING 424 SQFT LOG CABIN ONLY \$26K

Are you looking for a relatively quick, inexpensive, and easy way to build your log cabin? Searching for ideal floor plans? Well, look no further than the “Outdoorsman” Log Cabin design offered by Conestoga Log Cabin Kits and Home, because this one’s a keeper!



This cute, simple, well-laid out 424 square foot log cabin offers a good sized living space as well as a lovely porch that runs along the front entrance of the building. Imagine sipping your morning coffee out here, your feet up on the railing as the sun comes up. And you’ll just love the dramatic angle of the roof! In addition, there’s a kitchen area, bath, bunk room, and ample loft space. For those tall dwellers, you’ll be happy to know it also has a 12/12 roof pitch so won’t be bumping your head!

Based in Lebanon, Pennsylvania, the wonderful folks over at Conestoga Log Cabin Kits and Home have over thirty years of manufacturing and log cabin-kit building experience. When they first started out, it was their vision to become leading-edge manufacturers in the log cabin kit industry and now they offer many time-tested, professional designs to choose from. They have recently invested in a top-quality 100,000 square foot factory with the hope of shortening delivery times while increasing their efficiency – all with the intention of saving their customers money! They specialize in easy-to-build log homes that are less than 2500 square feet and have sold over 3000 log cabin kits so far – to all fifty states, as well as seven other countries. Their specially-treated logs offer low maintenance as they’re subject to far less warping and shrinkage compared to the average log. Brilliant!

To learn more, and to see the complete “Outdoorsman” Log Cabin floor plan, please visit the Conestoga Log Cabins website, below!

Source: [Conestoga Log Cabins](http://www.conestogalogcabins.com)



## 19. 25 BRILLIANT TINY HOMES THAT WILL INSPIRE YOU TO LIVE

There is a growing number of individuals who wish to live life simply and to the fullest at the same time. For this kind of people, life is not limited to huge-scale investments, and instead it may be based on other emotionally fulfilling aspects like a lifetime of endless adventure and memory-making. Having such a perspective is not wrong, and in most times, people who are open enough to the beauties of the world, even in its tiniest corners, are the happier ones. One significant example for this is the fact that more and more people are creative in their way and style of living. Tiny homes with innovative features have been the trend going for quite a few years now, especially with the rise of cargo homes and unique structures that simply garners the admiration of many around the world.



Those who are out of the desired budget to build the common home can choose among a variety of portable housing options made available by a growing number of interior designers. The Japanese Forest House by Brian Schulz integrated Japanese architecture into his home that uses a few basic materials used in traditional Japan to build a forest cabin for just \$11,000. Rachel Ross and Macy Miller are two happy home owners who have only invested less than \$12,000, the former using recycled materials to create herself a fairytale micro home without the troubles of mortgage.

Unique homes are also the talk of the internet in these day as many have been spotted in different parts of the globe serving their purpose of being great shelters, as well as unique spot attractions. An example would be the House Stone located at the Pittoresque Fafe Mountains, the Fantasy House (one that looks like a whimsical tree house but better) in Hokuto City, Japan, and the Fairytale Home in Minnesota, which was conceptualized by Dan Pauly.

To find out more of these wonderful tiny homes, you can check out the article provided in the 'Distractify' website below.

Source: [Distractify](#)

## 20. TOP 10 SMALL LOG CABINS #10 RUSTIC PERFECTION

A log cabin is a building whose log structural walls comprised of horizontal or vertical positioned logs. Log buildings have their own particular materials, structure and architectural design that is what makes them unique but still they also have their own deterioration problems.

Log homes were created with just a few basic resources. The pioneers who started log cabins came from Sweden and Finland, they arrived at their new place and decided that they did not need nails or barbs to hold the house, they only use trees and axe to build the log cabins.



Log cabin can finished in few weeks by one man working alone, however if he had help it can be finish faster. Log cabins are usually built facing the south; it is because the door allows the sun to shine into the cabin during the day. That is what makes the log cabin exceptional to any other types of homes.

This historical building regardless if it was built horizontally or vertically, whether they are from the 18th century log cabins or 20th century rustic style cabins, the experience of staying inside these amazing homes is something that money can't buy.

There are also variety of log homes depending on the historical background and influences, to name a few they are the Scandinavian, Finnish, Hispanic, Alaskan, English, Swiss, French, Scotch-Irish and many more. In today's generation, many people are still not familiar with log cabins and the association to colonial American history. Construction builders are now starting to revive the "rustic architecture and turning log homes into a resort or stay-in hotels for people who want to experience a peaceful vacation away from the city. Check out the site below to see the top 10 small "rustic" cabins that inspire your rustic nature.

Visit Pinterest below for more information.

Source: [Pinterest](#)