

# COUNTRY LIVING

## D I G E S T



## CONTENTS

|  |    |
|--|----|
| <a href="#"><u>1. Log Home Basics</u></a> .....                                | 2  |
| <a href="#"><u>2. Off Grid Living - What is it Really Like?</u></a> .....      | 6  |
| <a href="#"><u>3. A Review of Woodworking Magazines</u></a> .....              | 8  |
| <a href="#"><u>4. Homestead Real Estate - The Redlands</u></a> .....           | 11 |
| <a href="#"><u>5. The Popularity of DIY Solar Energy Solutions</u></a> .....   | 13 |
| <a href="#"><u>6. How to Make it Big With Tiny House Kits</u></a> .....        | 15 |
| <a href="#"><u>7. Country Living Room Furniture</u></a> .....                  | 17 |
| <a href="#"><u>8. Parrish Florida - Country Living at Its Best</u></a> .....   | 18 |
| <a href="#"><u>9. Cooking Food</u></a> .....                                   | 19 |
| <a href="#"><u>10. The 7 Most Common Mistakes When Cooking Pasta</u></a> ..... | 22 |
| <a href="#"><u>11. Unique Rustic Log Bench with Drawers</u></a> .....          | 25 |
| <a href="#"><u>12. The Woody Sink</u></a> .....                                | 26 |
| <a href="#"><u>13. Perfect Small Cabin Design</u></a> .....                    | 27 |
| <a href="#"><u>14. Cowboy Log Homes</u></a> .....                              | 28 |
| <a href="#"><u>15. Wholesale Log Homes</u></a> .....                           | 29 |
| <a href="#"><u>16. Build This Cozy Cabin For Under \$6000</u></a> .....        | 30 |
| <a href="#"><u>17. A Cozy Lost Creek Cabin in Wyoming</u></a> .....            | 31 |
| <a href="#"><u>18. Mountain Chic- Rustic Exterior</u></a> .....                | 33 |
| <a href="#"><u>19. Fully Loaded Log Cabin</u></a> .....                        | 34 |
| <a href="#"><u>20. Pauls Tiny Log Cabin</u></a> .....                          | 35 |

# **1. LOG HOME BASICS**

As we start to research log homes, it quickly becomes apparent that there is much more variety than one would ever think. Not only do log homes come in all shapes and sizes, but the logs themselves come in as many variations as you can imagine. Once you decide on the look you want, you can start eliminating manufacturers that don't provide your system.



There are two categories of log homes: handcrafted and milled log homes. Initially, you may not realize what you are looking at, but there are some basic guidelines that will clarify the differences. A handcrafted log home is just that; the logs are peeled by hand, notched by hand, and in many cases, each log is scribed to fit exactly on top of another log. In many handcrafted homes, the logs are stacked alternately, so the large end of a log is stacked on top of the tapered end of the log beneath. A milled log home will feature logs that are uniform in shape, and the logs will be cut to fit together, such as with a tongue-and-groove or Swedish cope, so that they stack easily and evenly. There is a big price difference between a handcrafted and a milled log home. This is mostly because of the intense labor required to construct a handcrafted home, and because of the larger diameter logs that are normally used. The vast majority of homes built today are milled log homes.

If you see a log home with round logs and chinking, that is a first indication that this is could be a handcrafted log home. Chinking was historically a mortar-like material that filled the gaps between the logs. Modern science has created an acrylic compound that expands and contracts with the wood; it is applied as a wide white stripe. If a handcrafted log is not scribed, then chinking is a must because the logs leave gaps along their length. Some people do use chinking as a design feature even when it's not necessary, though for the most part milled log homes are not chinked.

The characteristic corner of your log home will speak volumes to the person who knows how to read it. The profile and joinery system of the log will usually be reflected on the ends. For instance, on a handcrafted log home you'll see the different diameters of the stacked logs. To stack them, these corners will be notched so that each log sits directly on the log below it (like a Lincoln Logs(TM) toy). A milled log that is saddle-notched will stack the same way (of course, every log will look exactly the same). Because saddle-notched logs are staggered, course to course, the log ends will be visible on the interior corners of the house as well as the exterior. This gives a very rustic look. A butt-and-pass corner gives you an end where there is a space between every other log. This is

because one log butts up against the intersecting log, which runs past it. These logs are all laid on the same course, so that with the interior corners of your home, the logs will come to a squared edge.

On milled logs, there are many joinery systems to choose from. Today, the most popular joinery is called a "Swedish cope". This is where each log is scooped out to fit snugly on the curve of the log beneath. It gives a very smooth and natural look. Another joinery system is the tongue-and-groove, or double tongue-and-groove depending on the manufacturer. The tongues are cut into the top of the log and corresponding grooves at the bottom. These create a tight fit and stack easily. A more traditional, early American notch is called the dove-tail, which is a mortise and tenon notch usually cut into squared timbers. There are many other corner systems available, but these are the most commonly used.

The shape or profile of your log is another feature which will help you decide what kind of package to purchase. Many people prefer a "D" log, which is round on the outside and flat on the inside. This gives you a horizontal wood-paneling look, and is easy to hang pictures on. Others prefer a round log, which is a little more rustic and presents many challenges - such as how to join the logs to the sheetrock. Squared timbers, which give a more Appalachian look to the home, tend to be tall and fairly narrow, and are often grooved for the application of chinking. The average milled log home will use pine logs in 6" and 8" diameters. You can also find them in 10" and 12" diameters. Anything larger than 15" will probably roll you over to a handcrafted home. Cedar logs are an upgrade, and can be found in 6", 8" and occasionally 10" diameters. Some manufacturers more rarely use oak, cypress, fir, hemlock, larch, poplar, spruce, and walnut. These rarer woods will be a price upgrade. Because of the superior log care products on the market today that protect all the logs effectively, the wood species largely becomes a matter of personal taste. The best rule of thumb when choosing log species is to stay with a wood that is native to your area. The logs will adapt to the environment more comfortably.

Newcomers are continually amazed to discover that the logs are their own insulation. To compare a stick-frame wall to a log wall by using the "R-value" is not comparing "apples to apples". Logs have a lower "R-value" than insulated 2x4 walls. However, they work on the principal of thermal mass. Because of the cellular structure of logs, they tend to absorb the heat and hold it longer than traditional walls. The logs will actually absorb the heat from the interior of the house (or from the sun, if facing south), and when the temperature drops at night, the walls will generate that heat back into the house until the temperatures equalize. They take longer to warm up, and stay warm much longer. Conversely, they stay cooler in the summertime.

Some producers feature a half-log system, where the logs are attached outside-and-inside to 2x4 or 2x6 stick-frame walls. This adds the extra R-value of an insulated wall, along with the beauty of the log, and also makes it easier to install electrical wiring. Ultimately, these systems are a bit more expensive than full-log, because of the

additional cost of the lumber. But they do give the added ability to vary the interior of your house, so that some interior walls could be sheetrock, stone, or tongue-and-groove. In any case, many modern manufacturers use the half-log system on their second floor, to compensate for the huge windows, which may displace so many logs that the wall's integrity could be compromised. Also, because the large windows settle at a different rate than logs, the stick-framed second floor equalizes the overall settling. With the best manufacturers, you won't be able to tell on the outside where the full logs end and the half logs begin.

Once you've chosen what kind of log you want, you will discover that manufacturers each specialize in their own unique fastening system. Almost all manufacturers use double-sided foam tape between log courses. Some companies use lag screws, threaded bolts, or spikes to add integrity to the walls; others use fancy spring-loaded through bolts that compress the logs. Once again, the choice becomes a personal preference.

It would save a lot of work for the buyer to get a "turnkey" price on the logs, the lumber, the windows and doors, and the roof - what is commonly known as a "weathered-in shell". However, this complete system only makes sense if you are local to the manufacturer; otherwise, you'll be spending thousands of dollars to ship ordinary lumber across the country. After all, there is no difference between a roof used on an ordinary house and a roof used on a log home. You choose the kind of roof you want, but it'll come from the same manufacturer. The same goes for the floors, the doors, the kitchen, and the heating system. Windows can be a little tricky; you'll have to find a manufacturer that is willing to make an extended window-sill (or jamb) to accommodate the thickness of the logs. Most major window companies are able to do this.

Remember that log homes are completely custom. No log home company will offer you a choice of kitchens or bathrooms like a development builder. You will have to shop for these yourself, and the possibilities are limitless. Your builder may make some decisions for you, but you will be better served to pick your own flooring, light fixtures, faucets and even door knobs. Most manufacturers do not want to have anything to do with the foundation; that is not their business. You can use any kind of foundation you want, but you'll need to contact a local contractor to do that job, or have your builder do so. Almost all log home manufacturers have an in-house architect who will configure your plan to fit their own particular system. Unless you have a lot of money to burn, don't hire an outside architect to design your house, because the manufacturer will have to rework the plans anyway. If you want a quick start, the manufacturer will have a set of stock plans for you to choose from, and alter to fit your needs. Or you can design your home from scratch, and give them a rough set of drawings from which they will devise a set of building plans. This service is usually offered at no extra charge; there may be an up-front fee that is credited toward the final cost of the package.

Log homes are not maintenance-free - nor are they overwhelmingly laborious. Although the products on today's market do a fantastic job of protecting the logs from sun, rain

and insects, they do need to be re-applied ever three to five years depending on the wall exposure. This "maintenance coat" is much easier to apply than the original coats of stain, and no, you don't have to strip off the old coat first. So it's not as bad as it sounds! However, you must inspect the logs at least once a year for excessive cracking (or checking) - especially when the check opens upward, creating a water trap. These need to be caulked on the exterior walls. Also, do everything in your power to direct rainwater away from the house; if you have an overflowing gutter, deal with it at once. A damp log attracts rot and insects.

Expect your milled log home to take anywhere from 4 to 8 months to construct, depending on your weather, the availability of the crew (are they sharing your job with others at the same time?) and your planning. The most important thing you have to plan for is protecting the logs and the lumber from the elements. Set aside a large space (preferably covered with gravel) exclusively for the logs; you don't want them sitting in the mud. Cover your gravel with a tarp, and bring extra tarps for the logs. The logs are going to get scattered as the crew picks through them, and they're going to get stepped on and tossed around. They're going to get rained on, and you'll be amazed how quickly the logs weather. You'll have to immediately remove the plastic wrapping when the logs are delivered, or they'll get covered with mildew. The tarps will do the job. If your windows get delivered with the log package, you'd be best served to rent an enclosed trailer to store them in (FRAGILE is the operative word).

But I'm getting ahead of myself. As you may have gathered, people who build log homes tend to be more hands-on than with other kinds of construction. Log home customers are usually very well informed by the time they break ground - and they need to be! Cost overruns are often caused by unforeseen difficulties, and since your house is a one-of-a-kind, you're in for quite a challenge. Luckily, the industry has matured quite a bit, and you are no longer completely on your own.



## **2. OFF GRID LIVING - WHAT IS IT REALLY LIKE?**

If you imagine off grid living to be completely peaceful and without the stress and strains of everyday life as you know it now, you may be quite surprised to find out what it is really like. The idea that self-sufficiency means less hassle and less work or that you live out in the woods in total contentment is common, but it is not reality for most people living this lifestyle.



You have to first consider that most people do not just install a solar system and go off grid overnight. Renewable energy is extremely expensive still if you wish to purchase it outright, which prevents many people from going off grid right away. Most people will build up their system over time and will live ordinary lives while remaining only partially dependent on their solar systems.

As solar power and even wind mills become less expensive and more efficient, they are drawing more attention from every day people. You might not have neighbors around you with solar panels on their roofs or wind mills turning beside their homes, but you could in the near future. Many people are drawn to it for financial concerns, while others have an overly-imaginative idea of what living off the grid is really all about.

The truth is, to really live off the grid you have to do more than get solar power or install a solar shingled roof. This term ultimately refers to self-sufficiency where you rely upon yourself for all of your needs. That includes not only electricity, but water and other resources as well.

Living a self-sufficient life means you have to have more water and power than you actually use. You suddenly realize the real value of a dollar, of a drop of water, or of a single day's worth of electricity. Most people who are off the grid do not have unlimited supply of power, so they have to conserve energy to stay within the means of their system. This means you have to know what you are using and what your system can produce.

While most people cannot afford to go off grid immediately, even fewer people can afford to continue with their same lifestyle patterns and purchase a system to cover all their needs. This means you will ultimately have to adjust your lifestyle some if you want to be 100% off the grid in the future.

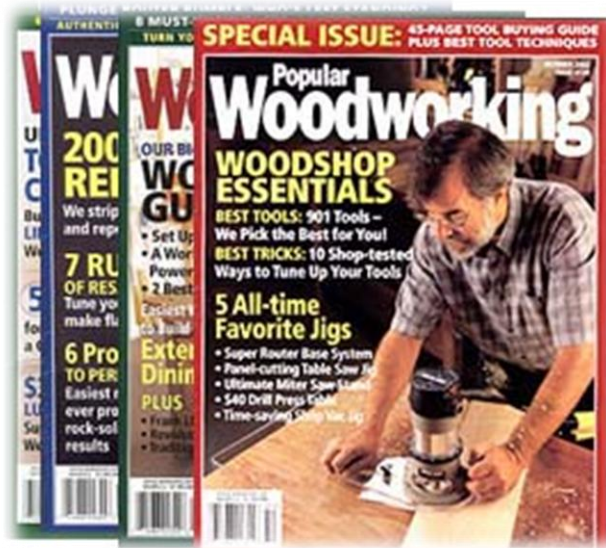
Most people do not give up their life totally to go live in the woods completely self-sufficient. Imagine what you would have to give up to do something like that! That simply is not what going off grid is about for many people. Those who are striving toward this lifestyle are everyday people who want to cut their expenses, free up some cash, and or help the environment and typically don't live out in the woods.



### **3. A REVIEW OF WOODWORKING MAGAZINES**

Woodworking magazines are excellent resource materials for woodworking enthusiasts. The typical magazine includes do-it-yourself projects, from simple projects such as chairs and tables to more complicated ones such as shelves and bed frames. Product reviews, woodworking design ideas, techniques and tips are also included.

There are a lot of magazines for woodworking available in the market. A variety of magazines are available for the newbie woodworker, and also for the experienced one. Some magazines even have expert woodworkers as their writers, thus ensuring tried and tested projects, techniques, and tips. Of the numerous woodworking magazines, which is the best one? What differentiates one from the other?



#### **Fine Woodworking Magazine**

Fine Woodworking Magazine is the undisputed leader in magazines for woodworking for over 30 years. The magazine caters to both beginner and expert woodworkers. As with all the other magazines, it contains design ideas, projects, tips and techniques, and product reviews. According to the magazine, their goal is to bring the most trusted woodworking information available by traveling the country in order to find the best hands-on craftsmen and photograph their techniques.

The projects they feature are beautiful works of arts that include alternative sizes and ideas, which gives the reader more options to choose from. Most of the projects though are more geared for the expert woodworker. Also, the projects do not have detailed diagrams that show the step-by-step process in creating the project. Though it caters to both beginner and expert woodworkers, beginners would have a harder time in doing the projects featured in the magazine. Though the projects are a bit hard, it would definitely be worth a try and it would help beginners grow to an expert woodworker.

The products reviews are very detailed and critical, thus ensuring that when you buy one of the products, it would definitely be worth it. The magazine also publishes a yearly Tool Guide Issue which is considered a must have for woodworking enthusiasts.

A favorite feature in the magazine is the "Methods of Work" where in readers send practical tips and solutions for woodworking. Though some of the tips may sound unusual, they are tried and tested and they really work.

According to a lot of people, Fine Woodworking Magazine is the Bible of woodworkers. If you are going to buy just one magazine, this is the one you should buy. A 12-year subscriber of the magazine said, "Of all the woodworking magazines available to read Fine Woodworking is the best, bar none. It will encourage those with no experience, and inspire those who are serious about woodworking."

### **Popular Woodworking Magazine**

If you are more of an amateur woodworker, then Popular Woodworking Magazine is the right one for you. The magazine covers the A to Z essentials in woodworking. Though the projects featured are aimed for the amateur woodworker, they are inspiring, beautiful, and useful projects that help build up your woodworking skills. Professional woodworkers write the articles in the magazine.

Popular Woodworking Magazine, like its other counterparts also includes tool reviews and tips and techniques in woodworking. The magazine is better known for the projects they feature which an amateur woodworker would be able to replicate.

### **Woodworking Magazine**

The Woodworking Magazine is a sister publication of Popular Woodworking Magazine. The Woodworking Magazine is the only magazine that does not have any ads in its pages. According to the creators of the magazine, they do not accept ads from manufacturers and seller of woodworking tools to ensure that the magazine is free of bias. All the pages of the magazine, including the back cover is filled with practical tips, ideas, techniques and projects.

The magazine is intended for beginners and amateur woodworkers. The articles are in depth and include a step-by-step illustration on how to create the projects, thus, perfect for the beginning woodworker. It also includes a glossary that explains terms in the magazine that needs to be defined. Some of the issues include tool reviews, which includes information on how to use the tools better.

### **Wood Magazine**

Wood Magazine is equipped for the beginner woodworker. The magazine includes typical features such as tips and techniques, tool reviews, and also interviews with woodworkers.

The projects are easy to do, are detailed and include step-by-step instructions. It also has measured diagrams and a material list that includes where the materials can be bought. The product reviews in the magazine usually reviews affordable products and tools, and not the high end ones.

The magazine is perfect for the beginner who would want to try his hand in woodworking.

Woodworking is the art of creating things, may it be a simple chair or an ornate and detailed cabinet, with the use of wood. More and more people are delving into woodworking as a hobby. Some even begin to have their own workshop and sell their own creations.

Woodworking is for the individual who appreciates creating art and beauty mixed with functionality. The creations become great sources of pride. The durability of wood allows the creation to stand the test of time, which enables it to be passed on from generation to generation.

Most woodworkers depend on woodworking magazines as excellent resources for new projects, tips and techniques in woodworking, and also product reviews on the tools available in the market. Are you curious about woodworking and do you like to start your own project? Purchase woodworking magazines to get you started!

## **4. HOMESTEAD REAL ESTATE - THE REDLANDS**

Situated in between Biscayne National Park and Everglades National Park, Homestead is a city in Miami-Dade County in Florida. It lays to the north of Florida City and along with the latter form the greater Homestead-Florida City area. The city's name has an interesting history and is derived from a path by the name of "Homesteader's Trail", that was the only means to reach the place. It is a small sized city with a comparatively large population of 54,000 people. This is the last city south before reaching the Florida Keys. The Redlands are Homestead's premiere home development where in some places only one house is allowed to be built in a five acres lot.

Located at 25°28' 16"N, 80°28'5"W, the city has a total area of about 14.3 mi sq. Homestead has a humid subtropical climate and reminds one of the climates that is existent in Miami and the rest of the South Florida Metropolitan area. Summers are extremely humid and hot with high temperatures while winters are mild and even cool when compared to nearby coastal regions. History bears witness to the fact that hurricanes have harmed the place the most. Hurricane Andrew was the last major hurricane that hit the area and Homestead took more than five years to completely recuperate. The place also came in way of Hurricane Katrina and Hurricane Wilma but they did not deal a major blow.

The oldest city in Miami-Dade County has a well developed education system and lies within the Miami-Dade County Public Schools district. There are a number of elementary and middle schools and two famous charter schools in the form of Keys Gate Charter School and Waterstone Charter School. Miami-Dade College is located in this city. There is a huge amount of undeveloped land in this city. The most famous farms are owned and operated by Manuel Diaz.

The city of Homestead has many major attractions which are especially popular with tourists. Biscayne National Park, Everglades Alligator Farm, Fruit and Spice Park and Homestead Rodeo are some sites of interest. The Biscayne National Park is famous for its scuba diving and snorkeling options and is a must- visit site for tourists. A botanical garden spread over an area of 32 acres, the Fruit and Spice Park is one of the greatest attractions in Homestead containing over 500 varieties of fruit, nut and spice trees. Another renowned tourist attraction in Homestead is the Monkey Jungle that has stood since 1933 and contains 400 primates of 30 different species. The economy of Homestead some time ago was thriving since it was a major steel producer in the United States. During the 1980's this stature of Homestead deteriorated fast as most of the steel companies went overseas. The situation further worsened after Hurricane Andrew in 1992 swept away much of the commercial center of the city.

The real estate market in Homestead is again picking up and prices are increasingly becoming more competitive. More than 50% of the real estate in Homestead is owner occupied and about 40% are rented units. The market was very robust recently and thousands of new construction homes were built but now it has cooled. The Redlands

and Nob Hill are among the more exclusive places to live in Homestead. Average price of a single family home is \$271,000 and the average home age is 22 years. Homestead real estate will rebound again in 2008.

## **5. THE POPULARITY OF DIY SOLAR ENERGY SOLUTIONS**

Many people would like to live off the grid with DIY energy solutions. But, can renewable energy be an economical solution? The answer is yes. However, getting access to renewable energy on the commercial market is unrealistic for all but the most affluent households. This is why DIY energy solutions are becoming so popular.



It is a matter of fact that DIY solar energy is dramatically gaining favor across the world. DIY energy solutions to rising costs in electricity or ways to save the planet have driven individuals to learn more about solar energy. It does not matter whether your motives are for self-interests or philanthropic, going off the grid is an increasingly practical dream with DIY Solar Energy kits. Building your own Solar Panels can be done below \$200 with DIY instruction guides.

By using DIY energy solutions, the cost advantages become more and more evident. Homes with only one solar panel can save on electrical costs by 30% or more. Most people can cut their household electricity use in half at a very low cost, and with a very fast payback. However, many factors play a role in how much you can save like how many panels you set-up and where you live. Your goals often influence the degree to which you power your home through DIY energy solutions.

It is becoming more popular to reduce start-up costs by utilizing DIY Solar Panel kits. Generally, the cost of setting up solar power systems is quickly recouped, and over time home solar power will pay for itself many times over. Adding to the attractiveness of DIY energy solutions is the friendly tax treatment that people who take advantage of it receive. The tax deductions and funding available may determine whether it is more cost effective to purchase readymade systems or do-it-yourself kits.

One little known advantage to producing solar energy for your home, is that during peak sunshine months, households can gain substantial savings by producing more renewable energy than needed and then sell the extra energy back to the utility company.

Selling power back to your utility company can be easy. Essentially you use a DIY energy source such as solar or wind for energy during the day and it supplies energy back to a grid, causing your utility meter to run backwards. Then, when it is dark outside or windy, the meter starts to roll forward again. This helps to save hundreds or thousands of dollars each year in electric bills.



You can go back on the grid during low sunshine times of the year. This can be a cost efficient way to live. Consumers gain either way.

But other than the savings that can be gained by using DIY energy solutions, there are other benefits that can be delivered by the DIY solar energy projects. For instance, solar energy for homes is also clean and renewable energy. Because a solar power system has no moving parts they are relatively maintenance free. The use of Solar Power offers a new level of energy independence.

Residential DIY energy solutions have now become a reality and with the current economic crisis the idea of homemade solar power is not only an environmentally friendly measure but also a cost saving one. For less than \$50 you can have a fully illustrated manual and video instruction that you need instantly sent to your computer allowing you to take action without delay. There is nothing like video to make instructions more understandable, especially when just starting out.

Countless DIY solar guides exist for the home enthusiast. The worthwhile ones will make it easier to complete your DIY solar energy project. You cannot go wrong with the small upfront investment of a quality guide. The right guide will save you a lot of time and money throughout the project.

## **6. HOW TO MAKE IT BIG WITH TINY HOUSE KITS**

With the emergence of advanced building systems and ready access to cranes and other heavy equipment, tiny cabin homes are becoming a popular choice both in the rural and suburban settings. These easy to assemble small log homes are pre-processed logs and usually come as tiny house kits. The logs are the predominant feature of the exterior as well as the interior of the tiny home structure. The log cabin kit follows a carefully developed template for an ideal rustic design complete with the requisite cabin windows, doors and even partitions. For most of us who want to have a log cabin for functional reasons or even as an addition to your home property must seriously consider the small cabin kit.



If you want to go through the trouble in your dealings with the architect, construction specialist, carpenter, plumber and other professionals to complete your small home construction or improvement project then buying a small cabin kit is your best alternative. Once you already made up your mind to start with the project, the first thing that you have to firm up is your budget for the project.

You have to make a list of all the essential services that you will require in completing your project. Before you start the project, finalize how you are going to finance your project. Are you going to utilize your equity or are you going to seek financing for your project.

You also must meet all the State documentary requirements and other requisites for the construction of the small log cabin kits. Make sure you are able to get the appropriate building permit and pass the building inspection requirements of the state or county.

Once you are done with the preliminaries, you are all set to start the construction phase of your home construction or home improvement project. The initial concerns that have to be immediately addressed are the cooling and heating system for your small house. The log cabin kits are provided with furnaces and wood burning stoves which are used to for the cooling requirements of your log structure. The later version of wood burning techniques is basically cost effective, efficient and practical to use.

Once you decide on this kind of heating and cooling facility then it is important for you to carefully route the chimney of your functional home. You can also explore other heating and cooling alternatives and make your final decision based on the overall design and the available budget.

The next one that needs your decision shall be the location. The location and size will be affected to a large extent by the constraints that are brought upon us by the specific log cabin kit. You will also have to decide based on the accessibility to utilities such as power and water.

Once you are able to pinpoint the exact location where you are going to site the log cabin, then you are ready to finally search for the most appropriate and functional small log cabin kits. There are considerable numbers of home developers who are exclusively carrying small log cabin assembly kits. You can ask from the dealer or the construction options for practical and professional ideas which you can adopt once you start considering the design of your small log cabin. You may also opt for a customized log cabin.

## **7. COUNTRY LIVING ROOM FURNITURE**

So many people are into modern furniture today but yet there are some that just love country living room furniture and would go to any extreme to own it. Fortunately there is plenty of this type of furniture on the market to keep everyone happy. Some people treasure the rustic look of country furniture. This type of furniture is not expensive, which makes it more appealing. Some people have wonderful country pieces that are hand carved from wooden logs where some people simply can't afford to purchase what they need, but there is a simple solution for this to.



There are many furniture rentals around the country that work very well for those that just need furniture for a short time for whatever reason and it is as simple as picking up the phone. These furniture stores will deliver country furniture to your home and set it in place for a monthly fee. When you don't need this furniture any more all you have to do is pick up the phone and tell them you want it picked up. It often happens that those that rent furniture end up buying it in the end and it is easy with the payments of renting being applied to the furniture you want to buy.

Furniture is rented for various reasons such as a short stay where you are living. It is not very practical to buy a house full of furniture if you are only staying in one place for a very short time, but it is important to have a nice place if you will be entertaining during your stay. Low income is also another reason to rent furniture from a rental store. If you want country furniture and you do want to have your home looking nice, then rental is the way to go. You can have the kind of furniture you want for a low monthly payment which is ideal for some people.

## **8. PARRISH FLORIDA - COUNTRY LIVING AT ITS BEST**

Parrish Florida is true country living, if you long for space and acreage then you have come to the right place. Many people who have lived in the surrounding areas still don't know Parrish exists. This suits those that live there just fine. Homes on sprawling acreage, farmers growing acres and acres of oranges and tomatoes make this far from the hustle and bustle of the big city however close enough to get there in about 30 minutes.



Parrish is starting to be developed and it won't be long and the sprawl of the city will reach its way to this tiny town. Developments are starting to pop up and people are moving from the city to these new homes. People want the best of both worlds, the feel of the country but also close to the city. Parrish gives them that. There are all kinds of housing options available from homes on acreage to maintenance free living. Take your pick; you are sure to find what you are looking for. These homes are in all price ranges and styles giving you a variety to choose from.

Gated communities, golf communities and waterfront communities are all available as well.

There really isn't a downtown; this is truly a one horse town. The General Store, 2 gas stations and a small grocery store is all that makes up the downtown area. Around the outlying areas are some other stores like grocery stores and pharmacies. A couple of small restaurants but that is about it. So when I say country living I really mean it!

I have to say it is one of the favorite places I lived in because I love the quiet when I get home. It was a wonderful way to escape the city and the hectic way of life during the day. I loved coming home to solace and quiet. I could actually feel myself relaxing as I was driving through the countryside.

The next time you are in the area, be sure to find Parrish Florida and take a drive through. Don't blink your eyes or you just might miss it!



## **9. COOKING FOOD**

People all over the world eat cooked food, but people in different countries cook their food differently. Most people in this country like to eat meat, fish and vegetables cooked, but there are some people who like to eat raw fish. With the expectation of some vegetables and fruits, most of the food eaten is cooked to a greater or lesser degree. The reasons for cooking food are:-

1. To soften the food so that it can be more easily digested.
2. To improve the flavor of food. The flavor of the meat and fish is greatly improved by cooking.
3. To improve the appearance of food, as uncooked meat or fish is objectionable to some people.
4. To kill germs so that the food is safe to eat.
5. To vary the flavor of the food. Different methods of cooking and the addition of different ingredients and flavoring give a wide variety of flavors to food.

There are many methods of cooking food as below:-

### **Boiling**

Food is cooked in boiling liquid till tender. Vegetables should be put into boiling water and boiled quickly, while meat should be put into cold water and brought up to the boil when making soup, or put into boiling water for stews. When boiling meat, the temperature is lowered to simmering point as soon as the water boils, otherwise the protein in meat will harden and will be difficult to digest. Fish is put into boiling water and simmered till cooked. If it is allowed to boil all the time the fish will break up. Boiling food to cook it partly is called parboiling. Slow boiling so that the liquid bubbles slowly all the times and only a little steam is given off is called simmering.

### **Stewing**

This is long, slow cooking in a little liquid. This is a good method of cooking, as cheaper and tougher pieces of meat can be cooked with other ingredients to make them and better flavored. Stewing should be done in a pan with a lid, as foods become tender more easily in a closed pan where the steam cannot escape too easily. It is also an easy method of cooking as very little attention is required when the food is slowly stewing.

### **Steaming**

Food is cooked in steam from boiling water. Only tender bits of food should be steamed. It is a slow method of cooking but it makes food easy to digest. Delicately flavored foods are best steamed as no flavor is lost during cooking, so the food retains all its own flavor. Steaming can be done by the following methods:-



1. In a steamer which sits over a saucepan of boiling water. Steam rises from the boiling water and passes through the steamer to cook the food.
2. In a frying pan of boiling water. The food is put in a steaming tray which rests on a stand in the frying pan. A well fitting lid covers the tray and steam from boiling water cooks the food. This method is faster than the first method.
3. In saucepan with a tight fitting lid.
  - Food is placed in a bowl or basin which stands in a saucepan of boiling water that comes up to half way up the side of the bowl, or placed on rice which is about to cook.
  - Food is placed on a plate and is covered with the saucepan lid. The plate is placed on top of the saucepan which is half filled with boiling water.

### **Frying**

this is a very quick method of cooking and is the most popular method of cooking in this country. There are three methods of frying:-

1. Dry frying where no oil is used at all as in frying peanuts or coconuts. The food is put into a clean, dry frying pan and is stirred over a slow fire until the food is evenly browned and cooked.
2. 2. Shallow fat frying where a little oil is used to prevent the food from sticking to the frying pan, as in frying eggs, pancakes or vegetables. When vegetables are fried, they are tossed in a little fat which is absorbed by the vegetables. This method of cooking vegetables is also called sauteing.
3. 3. Deep fat frying where food is cooked in at least 2" of hot oil. There must be enough oil to completely cover the food when the food is first put in. This method of frying is used for curry puffs, fry chicken and many other dishes.

### **Grilling**

this is cooking food directly over hot charcoal or under the electric or gas grill, as in cooking barbecue chicken or making toast. This is a very quick method of cooking and only very tender pieces of good should be cooked by this method.

### **Baking**

this is to cook food in the heat of an oven as in baking cakes, pastries, biscuits and bread. The hot oven heats up the air inside it and food is cooked by the hot air. Care must be taken to cook the food thoroughly without burning it.

**Roasting**

this actually means cooking over the open fire, but with the introduction of the oven, it has now become very much like baking, except that fat is added to prevent the food from drying and burning and also to improve the flavor.

## 10. THE 7 MOST COMMON MISTAKES WHEN COOKING PASTA

According to a recent pasta survey taken among Italian chefs and experts - these are the 7 most common mistakes most people make when cooking pasta...



### 1. Not using a large enough cooking pot

This is probably the most common "pasta cooking" mistake. The very minimum that the experts recommend is four quarts of water for one pound of pasta. But Italian chefs and pasta experts use more than that; between five and six quarts of water for each pound of pasta. This gets the very best results.

Why is all that water necessary? Because pasta needs enough space to move around in order to cook properly. Not using enough water causes the pasta to stick to the side of the pan, which makes it thick, sticky and unpleasant. When you use enough water you will definitely notice the difference in the taste and texture.

### 2. Adding oil to the cooking pot

It is hard to determine just where this idea came from originally but 44 per cent of Americans say they add olive or other oil to the cooking water. I suspect the idea is that the oil will stop the pasta from sticking together. But what it actually does is make the pasta too slick for any sauce to stay on it properly. If you have used enough water and remember to stir your pasta regularly as it is cooking, it will not stick together. Therefore - no need to add oil.

### 3. Not adding salt to the water

Because we are constantly warned about the perils of salt in our diet, many cooks will add only a tiny pinch of salt or none at all, to the cooking water. This is a mistake. Pasta needs plenty of salt because salt "roughs up" the surface and keeps it from becoming slimy. Add about a teaspoon of salt per each gallon of water. This seems like a lot but every good Italian chef cooks it this way and it really does make a difference. And here's the good news: The pasta does not absorb salt in the same way that vegetables or potatoes do, so you will not be eating all the salt that you use in the cooking water.

The exception to the 'add plenty of salt' rule is when cooking fresh pasta, which does not need salted water. The fact that it's fresh negates the need for salt because fresh pasta has a different surface than dried pasta.

### 4. Adding the pasta to the water before the water has boiled

Pasta must be cooked in boiling water from the start. Add the pasta to the pot when the water has come to a full rolling boil. It will stop boiling when you add the pasta so make sure you get the water boiling again as quickly as possible. To add pasta to cold water and then heat up the water is a sure guarantee pasta will not cook properly.

#### **5. Not stirring the pasta once it is cooking**

Pasta needs to be stirred while it is cooking. This stops it sticking together (especially spaghetti and linguine). When pasta doesn't stick together it all cooks consistently.

#### **6. Overcooking the pasta**

Different people will cook the same pasta for as much as five minutes difference and each will claim they have cooked their pasta perfectly. But, while accepting that taste is a subjective thing, there are people who undercook their pasta and people who overcook their pasta. Undercooking is less common because undercooked pasta is crunchy and obviously difficult to chew. Overcooked pasta (much more common) is limp, loses its shape easily, and won't hold a sauce well. Unfortunately, overcooked pasta is not salvageable so you'll have to throw it away and start again.

The key to cooking pasta well is to keep testing it as you cook it. There will be a guide cooking time on the packet so about a minute before that time is up, start testing the pasta. It is ready when it is slightly firm to the bite - a state the Italians call "al dente" (firm but not crunchy). At the al dente stage, turn off the heat and drain the pasta in a colander. Shake the pasta to get rid of all excess water (be especially careful to do this if they are pasta shapes which catch pockets of hot water) and serve immediately. The pasta continues to cook while it's draining it in the colander, so when you are testing, remember that what you eat will be cooked for a minute or two longer than what you're testing in the pan.

#### **7. Rinsing the pasta after cooking**

51 per cent of Americans say they rinse their pasta immediately after cooking. This ruins good pasta. When pasta reaches the al dente stage it means there are just the right amount of starches on the surface to absorb the sauce you will serve with it, which is where pasta gets its entire flavor. If you rinse, you take away these important starches.

There are two exceptions. First - if you're cooking for a pasta salad, the pasta does need to be rinsed because you don't want the pasta to be sticky if it's being used in a salad. After rinsing with boiling water then rinse again with cold water to stop the cooking process.

The second exception is if you have cooked your pasta in too small a pan and the water is cloudy and starchy. In that case it may be worth rinsing the pasta with boiling water to remove these starches.

By stepping out of your comfortable cooking routine and implementing these tips, you will be cooking pasta correctly. The difference is substantial. I promise you that your pasta will be cooked to perfection and will taste delicious with your favorite sauce.

## **11. UNIQUE RUSTIC LOG BENCH WITH DRAWERS**

A home is an expression of a person, and it's important to decorate in a way that reflects who you are, and makes you happy. Most people buy mass produced generic furniture and items because it's convenient and affordable.

If you desire something of quality that will last the generations and that you can pass down to your children, then you might be interested in Woodland Creek Furniture. They're a company that produces incredibly unique and exquisite pieces of rustic furniture. They have new designs in every month and one of the ones from this month is a unique rustic log bench with drawers.

It's a juniper and burl wood bench that comes in a variety of sizes. It's a unique piece that will fit well in a cottage or rustic home and will be sure to make a statement. There's a coat hanger and drawer that makes it not only beautiful, but useful too. And as an added bonus, if you don't need the drawer space then you can request it to be customized to your needs and they will handcraft a piece without the drawers for you



The talented woodworkers at Woodland Creek Furniture handcraft these pieces, and they take pride in the quality they deliver. So if you decide to buy something from them, you'll be sure not to be disappointed. Since each piece comes from a different piece of wood they will each have their own unique traits and differences, which ensures you will get something totally special and one of a kind.

Go ahead and check out this listing for the rustic log bench with drawers, it's a beautiful piece, and if you don't need a bench right now, there might be something else on their site that you like. They have customer service available seven days a week, so you can order something as early as today!

Just visit the 'Wood Land' website below for details.

Source: [Wood Land](#)



## **12. THE WOODY SINK**

This wooden sink is a finely crafted art piece. This would be such a unique and organic piece to have in use in your home. Woodworking has a very long history. The ancient world used wood to create items as does the modern world. Of course for the woodcrafters of long ago, every wooden object would have been done entirely with hand tools.

For those that love woodworking, using high-quality tools will allow you to not only have a good result, it will also make the process so much more enjoyable. We are featuring the Woodworking Center in this article and along with that some of the pro's and con's of Japanese woodworking tools.



So why Japanese tools? One key feature is accuracy. The Japanese have a very high standard in manufacturing their wood tools. This is no surprise. The Japanese are leaders in many technologies. For the woodworker that wants to invest in tools that will last a lifetime, these are worth considering.

When you are shopping for tools, you should make a list of what you need. There is a large variety of tools, and you don't need them all.

One thing is purchasing a tool from any company is what material is the tool made from? Is, the tool going to stay sharp and last? How much is the tool going to cost you? Is cheaper better or is the most expensive the best investment? You will need to take the time to compare quality and pricing. How about the brand of the tool? When it comes to Japanese tools two well known reputable companies are Grizzly and Dozuki. The final thing is who manufactured the tool? Again, do your research and choose a well known, established company that guarantees the best.

For more information, please visit the 'Woodworking Center' website below.

Source: [Wood Working](#)

## **13. PERFECT SMALL CABIN DESIGN**

The small house and cabin trend is sweeping the nation and people are looking for simpler ways to live their lives and get back to their roots, get back to nature. It's a wonderful positive trend that is causing a huge shift in our society's paradigms of what is desirable for people. It's very exciting actually! This article shows us the many varieties of small cabin designs and the varying materials you can use when building your own small home or cabin, with a little write up of each.



It's important when building your home or cabin or when you are having it built, to have in mind what type of material you are going to want to use in the building process. From cladding and clapboards, to boards and battens, wood shingles, logs, stones, even steel for a durable and more contemporary look. The article gives some good insight into each material giving you an idea of what you would be working with and eventually living within. Things like wood and stones have been used for house building since the beginning of humans building homes for themselves. In warmer climates you can even use mud and earth to make your home. These homes made with the most natural materials have stood the test of time, some stone homes in Canada have stood for over a hundred years, braving the cold winters and providing a warm interior for the people who inhabit them.

This list is a good place to start to explore the different materials to be used in your own building project and get an overview of each. There are extensive books and articles written on each material that would really help you in making a final decision, much that could be found by perusing this website! So head on over and look around at the 'Stand Out Cabin' website link below.

Source: [Standout Cabin Design](#)

## **14. COWBOY LOG HOMES**

Do you have dreams to build your cabin in the woods? Or just a home built out of logs? Check out this awesome web site, Cowboy Log Homes, filled with photos of beautiful log cabins and log homes! Log homes are Mike and Sue Lemmon's passion,



a couple from Belgrade, MT who own Cowboy Log Homes and work very closely with their customer's building process. Often they will be found right on the building site as they love the hands on aspect of the job. On their well designed web page you can find all sorts of building plans, and packages for your own personal projects. You can also see that they will work with you on the plan of your dreams. There is a wonderful gallery of some of their projects under many different subtitles. They have built and designed a lot of homes!

Its so cool to see a couple working together doing what each person is passionate about and putting it all together into a business that can help others to achieve their dream home! They even have lists of many different types of floor plans for varying square footages. They have Log Home Packages as well so they cater to a wide variety of people. If you live in the area, they would be great people to go to to get your project done! I imagine they would be great to work with on your home project. You can tell that they are very passionate about what they do and love to extend that out to other people. Which is very important when building your dream house that you are going to live the rest of your life in? So check out their great web site and give them a call if you can use their services! Or save it for future projects!

For more information visit the link below to 'Cowboy Log Homes'.

Source: [Cowboy Log Homes](#)



## **15. WHOLESALE LOG HOMES**

**H**ave you always been interested in building your own log cabin? You're not alone, thousands of people are wanting to build their very own log cabin. But do you ever wonder where you buy the logs from to build your house? This Wholesale Log Homes site has



everything you need and more to get your building project going. They have been selling home builders quality logs, timber and logs siding since 1972. As you'll see on the website, you can even get an estimate of what the materials for your own project will cost! They couldn't make it any easier to get the materials you need to build your dream home. Their awesome comprehensive web page complete with beautiful photos, makes it so easy for any one to access the supplies they will need to build. You can also buy complete home log house kits, and then you just have to formulate your own plans and start building. How amazing is that?! They claim that you will be able to save a fortune when buying wholesale from them.

House building materials can be pricy, why not get them from a more affordable source? A majority of the costs in building is the materials, if you are building your home yourself and buying from an affordable source like this, you will save tons of money in the process. Money that can be used to be put toward home furnishings and decor, landscaping and garden space or anything else your heart desires! They will make shipping possible world - wide and have done so for customers before, which is so great! So go on over and peruse their website, there are so many beautiful photos and they outline clearly exactly what it is they do and do not provide for customers. Its definitely worth a look at the link below to 'Wholesale Log Homes'.

Source: [Wholesale Log Homes](#)

## **16. BUILD THIS COZY CABIN FOR UNDER \$6000**

**H**ave you been having dreams of living in a cabin in the woods? Well, now you can be the master of your destiny and build your own cabin for under \$6000! Sound like an impossible feat?

Well in this article Steve Maxwell takes you through the steps one by one to ensure you have everything you need to have the cozy cabin you have dreamed about. It's all laid out in the article of 10 step by step instructions he goes through in this awesome article. Steve built his own cabin while building his bigger house, but his instructions can help you to build pretty much any size cabin or home you want.



He explains in depth about building materials and longevity, everything from building a strong foundation to a solid roof frame. He even includes a price run down of all the costs implemented in building your cabin. There are links to pre fabricated cabins in the US and Canada, just in case you would rather save some of the guess work and have a bit more money to spare.

Steve's helpful article is such a handy tool, he's done all the practical work and now he is sharing his building knowledge and wisdom with the rest of us who want to be "do it yourself-er's". When you have the information at hand like this, it makes it way easier to get the job done, instead of making mistakes that eat up time and money. Time better spent building your cabin and then marveling at the results!

As you'll see at the end of the article, Steve is available on social media network Twitter and Facebook and you can also has a blog called "Maxwell's House" that you can check out as well. But be sure to save this article to your bookmarked links, it's a gem!

Now please visit the 'Mother Earth News' website below for more.

Source: [Mother Earth News](#)

## **17. A COZY LOST CREEK CABIN IN WYOMING**

As you spent your summer vacations in a mountainous area, there is only one thing that comes into your mind when deciding where to stay. Log cabins. This type of house is much simpler than log houses and still gives comfortable atmosphere, rustic charm, and luxurious living. Architects are all inspired



by the European style where it all originated and also in Scandinavia. Many famous architects have great log cabins designs as they are more inspired in mountain architecture. One of the great architectural firms in US is the Ellis and Nunn Associates Architecture, which was established in 1978. They have combined experiences ranging from residential and commercial to historic preservation, mountain modern design, and timeless style. This firm is a member of the American Institute of Architects (AIA) and the National Council of Architects Registration Board (NCARB).

One of their stunning designs is the Lost Creek Cabin in Teton County Wyoming in the north of Jackson Hole and has the privacy of being situated in the well known Lost Creek Guest Ranch. This Log cabin guest house is modelled after the famous Madison Ranger Station in Yellowstone National Park. To make sure that every detail resembles the historic design of the original ranger station from the entry doors to the massive stone corners on the outside, the AIA firm worked closely with the owners.

The Lost Creek Cabin measures 1000sq. ft. with one large living area with fireplace and a dining area that has a very cozy kitchen. It has two large bedrooms that the master's bedroom was written up by the renowned Houzz website as one of the Coziest Bedrooms. "This simple yet amazing cozy cabin is featured in some Log Homes books, magazines and websites together with the firm's many projects. Some of these are The Log Home Book, Log Home Living, Luxury Log Homes and Timber Frame, Log Home Design Ideas, Country's Best Vacation Log Homes, Big Sky Journal, Homestead Magazine and many more".

Ellis and Nunn Associates Architects takes pride in providing the service their clients expect to receive. Their team has an experienced professional staff composed of architects and technical personnel, and they kept up-to-date with the best energy efficient home technology. They looked toward the future and maintained the position of long term client relations. With this, they have gathered testimonials that show the strong architect/client relationship they have attained through the years.



To review some of their client's testimonials, log on to their website at the 'Ellis Nunn & Associates' website below to view more of their projects.

Source: [Ellis Nunn & Associates](#)

## **18. MOUNTAIN CHIC- RUSTIC EXTERIOR**

**Roxbury Studios** is an exquisite interior and exterior design firm out of Salt Lake City, Nevada catering to high end residential and commercial projects in hospitality. When you visit their web page you will see that they are very much focused on using



the most luxurious materials and find exactly the perfect decor for their clients. They seem to have done a wide range of projects from bohemian style, to sleek minimal urban style and even retro. The exceptional work they have done on all their projects shines through the beautiful photos they have in their portfolio. One particularly amazing project is the Mountain Chic a Rustic Exterior project they did which can be found in their blog. It is absolutely spectacular, I don't think I have ever seen anything like it! The rugged terrain made up of river rocks and boulders and then the water fall flowing under a bridge feature in the home's architecture! It looks so gorgeous! They really have done an amazing job suiting the decor and landscaping to this property for sure. There is an element of modern but that is also at the same time very rustic and fits into nature very well. The home itself is very unique, almost having the look of a hobbit house with rounded entry ways and windows. But also with a flare of modern chic! It is really quite something to see! I love that mix of the old and the new, as well as incorporating nature into the home and landscape. The pond and water fall will be amazing for all types of life. It almost looks like it is out of a fairy tale in a way! It is so unreal! Head over and have a look for yourself and maybe add some features to your own dream home in your visualization! Follow the link in the description below to get to "Roxbury Studios" website!

Source: [Roxbury Studios](#)

## **19. FULLY LOADED LOG CABIN**

**A** Log Cabin exudes a rustic charm that almost can't be beaten. But what if you want the modern conveniences of home amongst all that beauty? Well, if that's what you're looking for we've got some ideas! A rustic log cabin that is picture perfect with a contemporary modern flair that you've never seen before!



For the purpose of this article, we assume you have a two bedroom cabin, complete with a kitchen, family room, and a loft space upstairs.

Modern kitchen appliances are a must and we suggest stainless steel. There is a certain west coast charm that is represented with a mix of metal and live, natural wood. It's a look that can be both warm and modern.

In the loft space, a projection screen encompasses one whole side of the vaulted ceiling. The floor space is consumed by a mattress and huge plush throw cushions with the exception of a center walk path that is left clear. So in this space you can utilize a sleeping area, a media space, or perhaps a quiet reading area.

The main floor also boasts a modern sectional couch, down filled in a charcoal gray color that balances with the stainless steel appliances. Extra throw cushions give a pop of color in blue and orange. It's a bold statement of color though here where this modern oasis is dropped inside a rustic, charming log cabin; it all makes sense.

Outside you'll find an open-air retreat that boasts seating for eight around a long table, made from reclaimed barn boards. The chairs are handcrafted by a local artisan who repurposes farming accessories to create one of a kind patio furniture.

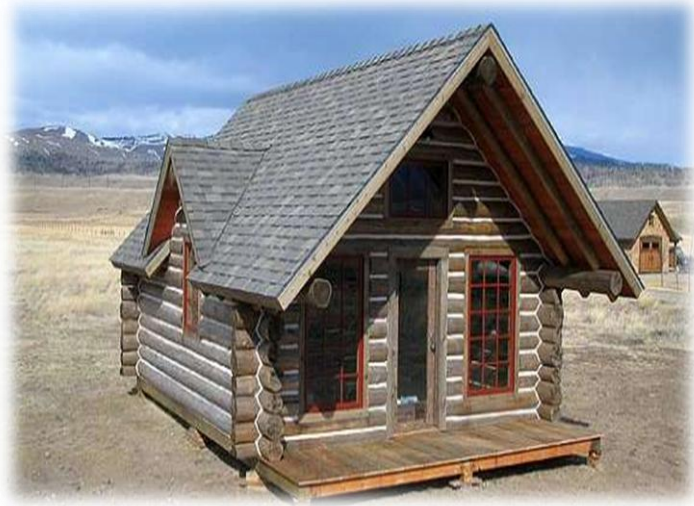
So there, you have it, a property that provides you with the much-needed rest & relaxation without sacrificing modern conveniences.

Inspirations and ideas are the springboards in creating your own log cabin. You can find lots of ideas at the "Goods Home Design" website below.

Source: [Goods Home Design](#)

## **20. PAULS TINY LOG CABIN**

Another lovely human being has given birth to another wonderful log cabin: Paul McMullin. Cheers to you, Paul! Paul is spotted by Kent Griswold from Tiny House Blog when he posted a picture a photo of his cabin in Tiny House Blog's Facebook Fan Page. According to Griswold, Paul has built few log cabins and this log cabin we are featuring today is one of those. "The quality of his work is



something else," Griswold compliments Paul in Tiny House Blog. Right now, you are itching to build your own log cabin too. If you are inspired with Paul's skillful hands and wonderful work, we will start with the basic steps on how to prepare self-build log cabins.

The First step is to plan your project. "The success of self-build log cabins depends on how good you are in planning your project. You cannot just simply say that tomorrow I will start myself build log cabins," says Angela Bryant, an author from Ezine. "Project planning is an inherent step in any project that an individual or group is to take. Your job becomes so easy with a good and effective project plan. A good project plan will help you easily picture out the progress of your project," she adds. Therefore, in coming up with a good project plan, identify yourself and skills. Are you good in carpentry and plumbing stuff? If not, it is best for you to look for an expert. Also, you must determine where to build your log cabin, and always follow the government policies in building it.

Next is designing your log cabin. Of course, your design must be according to your preferences. "Different people have different taste. The design is purely dependent on how the owner visualizes his or her ideal cabin where he or she can imagine so comfortable with. It has its own creative outlook and appearance that basically describes the owner's personality," says Angela.

Also, when choosing furniture for your future log cabin, select those that "will balance the handcraft design of your wall, ceiling, and walls." For the lighting fixtures, choose the ones that will contribute to the aroma and balance to your log home.

For the materials, it is important to always consider the quality of wood for your log cabin. The last step is the preparation of the construction site. Angela says, "This step involves the groundwork operation and clearing the site for easy access. Important in the groundwork operation is the installation of the basic needs of the site like power, water, gas, drainage and waste management system."

Let me end with a quote from Angela: “One thing to consider about self building log cabin is that you will enjoy living in the comfort of your cabin and at the same time having this major feeling that you are stay connected with the heart of nature.”

Want to take a look at Paul’s log cabin? Click on Tiny House Blog website below. Have fun building your own soon!

Source: [Tiny House Blog](#)