

Log Homes: From Land to Lockup

Reprint Edition

The **International Log Builders Association** is pleased to provide you with this free reprint from our book, *Log Homes: From Land to Lockup*. The ILBA is a not-for-profit, educational association dedicated to furthering the craft of log home construction. It publishes books, articles, *Log Building News*, and the *Log Building Standards* (the “building code” for log homes), and conducts annual conferences and workshops for log home customers and log home builders. **ILBA 800-532-2900 info@logassociation.org**

Log Builder Interview Form

Log Company Name: _____

Person I talked to: _____ Their position: _____

Phone: _____ Fax: _____

Type of Construction: handcrafted machine-cut other _____

Today's date: _____

Web Site: _____ E-Mail address: _____

I heard of them from: designer advertisement internet contractor other _____

1. How many years has the company been in business? _____
2. How many years of building experience does the builder have? _____
3. How many craftsmen does the builder employ? _____
4. How many projects or homes does this company build at one time? _____
5. Does the company or the builder belong to any professional associations? If so, which ones? _____
6. What is the size of the company? _____ How many projects or homes do they average per year? _____
7. What species of wood do they use? Douglas fir Spruce Pine Cedar Other: _____
8. Do they have a preference for certain species, and if so, why? _____
9. Do they build with green wood? Dead standing? Winter-cut? Air dried? Kiln dried?
10. What is the average (mid-span) diameter of the logs they use? _____
11. How do they solve settling issues? _____
12. Do they build to the ILBA Log Building Standards? _____
(a free copy of Log Building Standards can be downloaded from the ILBA website www.logassociation.org)
13. What type of structures do they build? Scribe-fit Chinked Post & Beam Timber Frame
14. Notches—what sort of corner notch do they use? Comments: _____

-
15. Lateral grooves (long grooves)—what sort of groove do they use? _____ Comments: _____
16. Do they build log gable ends? _____ Log trusses? _____ Post & Purlin? _____
17. What type of insulation do they use in their grooves? Fiberglass Gasketing tape None Other _____
18. What type of insulation do they use in their corner notches? Fiberglass Gasketing tape None Other _____
19. Does their package include: Holes for electrical wiring? Mortises for electrical boxes and faceplates?
 Through-bolting? Doweling? Screwjacks? Wall-slot cuts? Flats cut on purlins and plates for roof?
 Ledging for loft floor? Doors and window openings cut and prepared for installation?
20. Are all bolting materials and hardware included? _____ Installed? _____
21. How do they finish their logs? Grinding Sanding Planing Hand-peeled (drawknife) Machine-peeled
22. How do they finish saddles (scarfs)? Grinding Sanding Planing Other: _____
23. Do they pre-stain the logs (apply exterior finish)? Required Optional Suggested Not available
24. Do they prefer a certain brand of exterior finish? Which one? _____ Waterbased Oil based
25. Do they use fungicide, mildewcide, or preservatives in their yard during construction or prior to shipping? _____
26. How far ahead does one have to plan in order to work with them? _____ What is the expected time from signing their contract to shipping the package? _____
27. Does the company provide staircases? _____
28. Does the company provide hand railings? _____
29. Does the company supervise the reassembly of the structure? _____ Who pays for the labor needed for reassembly? _____ Who pays for crane rental for reassembly? _____
30. Is shipping-transport of the building included in their price? _____
If not, do they make shipping arrangements for you? _____
31. Does the company provide General Contracting services? _____
32. Do they offer any materials packages? Will they do this on request? What additional materials, if any, do they provide? doors windows flooring lumber other: _____
33. Can they design your home? _____ Do they do this in-house? _____ What are the costs? _____
34. Do they have stock plans to choose from? _____ Do they have a plan book? _____ Video _____
Is there a cost? _____

