



Introducing the Log Homes Council Buyer's Guide

The Perfect Path To Your Dream Home

"I took the road less traveled by, and that has made all the difference." – Robert Frost



If you're dreaming of buying and building a log or timber home, you are not alone. More people live in these modern, rustic residences than in any time in history. The warmth of wood, the solid construction and that powerful connection to nature, all add up to a feeling of safety and sanctuary that many of us crave in today's uncertain world.

While log and timber homes have grown in popularity since the 1970s, embarking on this journey puts you squarely on the path less traveled. But just because it's a rare experience, doesn't mean it has to be difficult. That's where the Log Homes Council Buyer's Guide comes in handy. The council has created the Path To Your Dream Home to make the buying and building process far easier.

On this website, you will find all the answers you need to make your dream of log or timber homeownership a reality. This information is sponsored by the Log Homes Council (LHC), part of the Building Systems Councils of the National Association of Home Builders.

Members of the LHC are a very exclusive association. While more than 400 companies offer log and timber homes in the United States and Canada, less than 60 companies qualify for membership in the LHC. What sets these companies apart? They offer peace of mind.

Building your dream home is likely one of the largest investments you will make in your lifetime. LHC members have adopted a number of bylaws designed to protect your investment. These include:





- All LHC members abide by a strict code of ethics
- All LHC members grade their logs and timbers to ensure quality construction
- All LHC members provide construction manuals to ensure homes are built to meet national and local building codes and standards
- All LHC members contribute to scientific studies that have proved that these homes meet or exceed national, regional and local building codes
- All LHC members craft and manufacturer their homes right here in the U.S.A.
- To discover more about what sets these LHC companies apart, read more here

The advantages of choosing a log home manufacturer that is part of the LHC does not stop with those bylaws or the fact their products are proudly made in America. What you will find when you start shopping for a log home producer among these companies is that the men and women who make their living in this industry have a real passion for their work. It's refreshing to interact with someone who has a genuine enthusiasm for what they do. When was the last time you bought anything from anyone who not only harvests the raw materials, but also designs and crafts the finished product? You will find everyone from the sales rep to the owner of the company have something in common with you: They share the same passion for living in a log home as you do.

Much of their knowledge will be on display on this website, with new articles about every aspect of the buying and building process. In the coming weeks and months, the LHC Buyer's Guide will provide how-to articles for each step of the path to your dream home. These reports, which can be digitally downloaded to create your own log home guide, will include:

- How To Determine Your Budget
- How to Choose a Lender
- How To Buy Land
- How To Design Your Home
- How To Choose A Log of Timber Home Producer
- How To Choose A Builder (or Build It Yourself)
- How To Build 'Green' or Sustainably
- How To Finish Your Home On Time & On Budget
- How To Protect Your Investment with Maintenance

So keep checking back each week for more tips on how to make your dream log or timber home a reality in 2010 or beyond.

Charles Bevier, LHC Website Editor

