



Log Cabin Information & Assembly Guide

Before You Start

Do not attempt assembly of your building until you have checked the “component list” at the back of the drawings sheets to ensure all parts are present. You must notify our Technical Helpline of any missing or damaged components within 3 days of receipt of the building.

Screws, nails and other materials or tools for erecting and preserving the building are not supplied as part of the purchase.

Guarantees are limited to the replacement of incorrect or damaged materials. Your statutory rights are unaffected.

Assembly Guide

In addition to this written guide we also have supplementary video guides

Introduction

This guide is generic and covers all Log Cabins in principle in the range. It therefore must be used in conjunction with the drawings supplied for the specific model in question, which details the individual components of your log cabin building.

Building your log cabin is relatively straightforward for anyone with a good standard of DIY or building experience. In general it does not require any special skills, but it will require a logical approach and will sometimes require some general carpentry. If you have any doubts as to your ability you should contact Forest Garden and arrange a professional team to assemble the building for you.

You should also pay special attention to the possibility of surrounding raised ground draining onto the slab or under your cabin. Building the base correctly is very important – cutting corners on this part of the project will potentially make assembly difficult, and jeopardise the longevity of your log cabin.

For more information on building your base please refer to the Log Cabin Base Preparation document included within this pack.

1



Your cabin will be delivered on 3 pallets. The largest one contains all the timber components, the second contains all the windows and doors and the third has the rolls of felt or felt shingles strapped to it (depending on what you have ordered). The largest package will usually measure 1.5 metres x 1.5 metres x whatever the length of your cabin is. It's important that you have the appropriate space to store your cabin once delivered, until such time as it can be installed.

2



In order to unpack your cabin first unpack the doors and windows, and felt/shingles which have been stacked on top of the main cabin. Carefully cut the strapping and remove the packing timbers. Then remove the packaging from around the cabin. Take care when removing the packaging as it is stapled to the cabin logs to keep it in place during transit.

3



Your cabin has been carefully packed at the factory, with the floor bearers located at the top. These are always the first components to be removed.

4



When identifying parts please use the instructions provided. You will find a detailed description of each part and how many are packed within the cabin at the back of the instructions. There is also a visual of where each part is located throughout the instructions.

5



In addition to the instructions, there is a packing sheet located amongst the cabin components. Please retain this sheet as it contains the packing number which will need to be quoted during any correspondence with us.

6



Locate the floor bearers, the two half logs and two of the full wall logs (refer to the instructions if needed). Take these to the site of installation and lay out as shown.

7



Line the first notch of the half log up with the notch of the full log.

8



Using a white faced rubber mallet, connect the half log to the full log. Please ensure you strike the log on the inside of the joint, not on the outside where you risk snapping the end of the log off.

9



Before securing the logs together, ensure both the flat part of the half log and the grooves of the full log are face up.

10



Repeat on the other three corners. You're now ready to start setting out the floor bearers.

11



Lay the first floor bearer on top of the flat surface of the half log making sure the edges of the bearer line up flush with the outside edge of the half log. Also ensure the bearer is laid on its widest edge.



Do not lay the floor bearer on its narrowest edge otherwise the internal lip to support the floor boards won't be created.

12



Make sure each end of the floor bearer is lined up flush with the outside edge of the full wall logs then pre-drill a hole ready to fix the bearer and log together.

13



Continue to secure to the half log in the centre and other end of the floor bearer. Repeat for the other edge bearer. Position one of the floor bearers roughly in the center between the two edge bearers. Measure from the outer edge to the center of the middle bearer. Measure from the adjacent outer edge until the bearer is dead centre.

14



Make any final adjustments then pre-drill and secure each end of the bearer to the wall logs using screws.

15



Repeat the entire process for all remaining floor bearers.

16



With the help of another person, lift the finished base at one end. Once the base is in a vertical position proceed to 'flip' it over so the bearers will end up resting directly on the floor.

17



When lowering, move along the base until you're both supporting the end and gently lay it on the floor.

18



Ensure the base is square by applying a builder's square to each corner and tapping into position. Measure across each diagonal, ensuring they all measure the same distance. Make adjustments as necessary to bring the base into a perfect square.

19



Now that the base is prepared start unpacking the rest of the cabin, positioning the components around the perimeter of the cabin base.

20



Refer to the instructions to ascertain where each component should be positioned around the cabin and to ascertain how many of each component should be positioned on each side.

21



Once the components have been laid out around the cabin use the instructions to check you have the correct quantities of each part.

22



Please ensure a rubber mallet is used at all times when striking the logs. Always strike the logs on the inside of the joint.



Never strike the logs on the outside of the joint as you risk serious damage to your cabin.

23



The joints should interlock tightly as shown. Note that the tongue of the logs should always be face up.

24



Constantly refer to the drawings to determine log positioning.

25



Start building the cabin walls by securing a full log to each of the half logs.

26



Interlock a side log over the front and back rear logs.

27



Repeat on the other side.

28



Build the logs up to window height. Referring to the instructions, note how many logs are needed to be installed before the window recess log is installed.

29



Assemble the door frame. The door frame comes with the screws pre-sited, so line all the parts of the frame up with each other and screw together.

30



Build the cabin up to about 8 logs high then slide each window frame over the logs. This will help act as a guide for all additional logs.



Slide the door frame over the logs and into position.



Make sure the door and window frames are pushed down fully.



If needed, release some of the tension on the window and door frames by slightly loosening the frame screws. Once the internal part of the frame is fully in contact with the top of the log supporting it, re-tighten the screws.



Using the window and door frame as a guide, continue to build the walls of the cabin up to roof height.



When installing the top recessed logs, as before, loosen the tension on the window and door frames to allow the logs to rest perfectly on top of the window and door frames.



Once the front recessed log, rear full log and two side logs have been fitted you are ready to start constructing the framework for the roof.



Fit the front and rear roof edge support logs.



Make sure the angles run the correct way to define the slope of the roof.



Insert the gable ends on each side.

40



Take two of the three remaining rafters and fit each one tight against the recess on either side of each apex.

41



Insert the middle section of each gable end, ensuring a tight fit against the rafters.

42



Finally insert the top rafter into the recess on each side of the cabin.

43



Pre-drill two holes in the top of each roof board. Do this on one end of each roof board only, this is the end that will attach to the middle rafter.

44



If applying adhesive, only apply enough to each rafter for three or four roof boards at a time as it's quick drying.

45



Place the edge of the first roof board flush with the edges of the rafters. Pre-drill and screw each roof board twice to each rafter working your way from one side of the cabin to the other.

46



Place the last roof board into position and mark the position of each rafter edge on the underside of the board.

47



Using a straight edge join the joist marks together on the roof board by drawing a cutting line.

48



Proceed to cut the roof board down to size.

49



Place the cut down roof board into position. Pre-drill and screw once to each rafter.

50



When all the roof boards have been installed the roof board edges which overhang the front and rear of the cabin will need to be trimmed flush.

51



To do this, locate the shortest board and measure the distance between the apex point of the roof and the end of the board.

52



Transfer this measurement to the end board on either side of the cabin.

53



Apply a chalk line on these two measurement points and mark a line across the entire width of the cabin.

54



Proceed to trim the roof boards flush.

55



Locate the end grain protection strips.

56



Pre-drill both ends of each strip and once in the middle (three screws per section). Before fixing into the end grain of the roof boards, ensure the top of the end grain protection strip is flush with the top of the roof boards and the end of the strip is flush with the outside edge of the end roof board.

57



Line up the male and female parts of each hinge and lower the doors into place.

58



Ensure the shoot bolts located at the top and bottom of each door align with the shoot bolt holes located within the door frame.

59



If the doors need adjusting, lift them back off the hinges and use an Allen Key to adjust each hinge accordingly.

60



Firstly locate the Euro Cylinder into the mortice lock. Use the keys and turn slightly allowing it to fit in.

61



Fit the screw to secure the Euro Cylinder. If you peer through the screw hole you should be able to see the threaded hole in the Euro Cylinder, in which it has to locate. If not wiggle it around until you do.

62



Place the door handle covers over the barrel lock and line the holes up.

63



Place the handles into position and secure by tightening the small grub screw on the side of one handle.

64



Once all holes are aligned secure in position with the supplied screws.

65



Locate the door and window decorative strips. These are an L shape and relatively easy to locate.

66



Nail one to the top of each window frame on both the outside and inside. Repeat with the door decorative strips.

67



Note these strips do not sit flush against the back wall of the cabin. They are purely decorative and have no functionality.

68



When fitting the window handles remove the metal cover and insert the handle into the three pre-drilled window holes.

69



REMEMBER:
To replace
metal covers

Fix in place using the flat head screws located in the fixing pack.

70



Your cabin comes supplied with eight storm braces, two for the front, two for the back, and two each for the sides of the cabin. These anchor the cabin roof to the walls, providing additional security in the event of a storm.

71



Ensure each brace is fitted to the top rafter of the cabin on the front and back, and spans the apex and walls on each side. Mark out each hole and drill the necessary holes. Secure in place using the M10 bolts, washers, and nuts supplied with the fixing pack. Fit each storm brace to the outside of the cabin.

After your cabin has been assembled you will need to apply a preservative and seal the doors and windows. Please refer to the Log Cabin Aftercare document.