

10 Week Log Building Course Outline

as offered by Arbor Vitae Log Craft

Objectives:

1. Maximize a “hands on” learning process.
2. Understand the technical implications particular to the log building trade.
3. Integrate the trade practices of residential home requirements into log construction.
4. Develop a strong precedence for safety and technical procedure in accordance to required practices and regulations.
5. To monitor and assess levels of proficiency by working towards standards of excellence and ability.

Course Modules & Time Frames (10 weeks):

Introduction to tool safety and selection

- Acquisition of appropriate tools
- Safety procedures; crane signals; work guidelines and expectations
- The proper operation and maintenance/sharpening of hand and power tools
- Chainsaw workshop
- Review of Apprenticeship requirements
- Required reading

Log selection

- Proper log decking and sorting
- Identifying log attributes and grading requirements
- Log Inventory and selection
- Proper peeling techniques and participation in log preparation prior to log fitting
- Log Selection Rules
- Foundation layout; “squaring” rules

Primary log fitting

- Demonstration, participation and practice in the art of log fitting
- Initial layout techniques:
- Slabbing; scribing; notching; lateral grooves;
- On-going construction and joinery instruction

Secondary log fitting

- Work beyond “stacking the walls”
- Maintaining consistency, square and levels
- Advanced log selection: joists and roof members
- Specialized notches to match performance
- Door and window openings
- Addressing special problems
- Achieving plate heights

Advanced log fitting

- Roof members, truss construction
- Understanding the dynamics of log construction and settling
- Preparations and accommodations to the sub trade requirements of the log home
- Involve specific trade representatives and journeymen
- Stains and finishes
- Review and practice of Trade math and trigonometry