

IMEDEKSA UAB

The manufacturers of quality log cabins
<http://www.imedeka.lt>

INSTALLATION GUIDE

Tools required

Spirit Level
Screwdriver
Measuring tape
Hammer
Saw
Pliers
Drill
Knife
Ladder
Assembly drawings
Protective gloves

Foundation

A proper and good foundation is a deciding factor for safety and duration of your cabin. Only level, rectangular and capable to take load of cabin foundation can ensure the problem-free installation. Faulty foundation will definitely result in out-of shape walls, doors and windows will be impossible to regulate. Upper edge of foundation should extend over the ground at least 5 cm.

Recommended foundation options:

Cast concrete bed or concrete strip foundation
Concrete slabs or pavement slabs

Inspection of components

Open the packages and sort the components according the wall plans on Installation Drawing and Component Specification. Don't be surprised to find some extra logs for walls, 2-3 floor boards and roof boards - some extra components are there just in case of any damage in transit or during assembly. Important: do never put components on dirty surfaces, or grass as it will be very difficult to clean them afterwards.



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Foundation frame / joists

The foundation frame is treated against decay, as well as floor joists. Ensure that frame is laid completely flat. Fix the lap joints with woodscrews. Check the diagonals, they must be identical measure. Install floor joists and fix them to foundation frame.

ADVICE: As extra protection from storm, you may want to fix the foundation frame to the foundation by steel angles or anchors (The fixtures to the concrete are your choice and not supplied with a cabin).



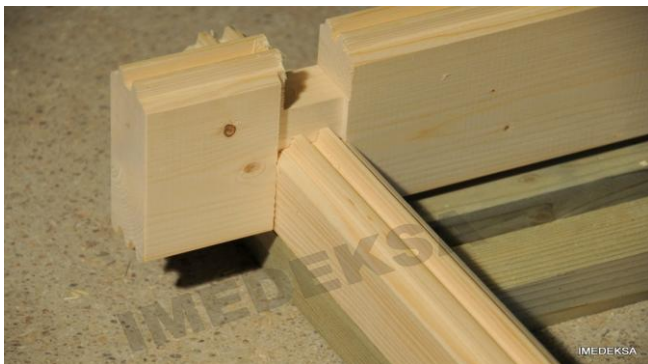
Walls

Remember - all wall logs are placed with tongue up. Make sure all Tongue&Groove are fitted properly in each row of wall logs.

Follow the wall drawings, and use correct components. Start with half logs as per drawing, and fix them to the foundation frame before proceeding with next row of logs up.

IMPORTANT: after you have first row of logs installed, measure the diagonal lengths, if necessary re-install the logs. You can proceed with next row of logs only if base frame is rectangular and diagonals of first row are equal measure.

When walls are 5 or 6 logs high, it's time to get doors and windows installed.



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Doors and windows

Doors and windows come in ready for installation units that slide into door/window opening from top. Package with all fixtures contains handles and face plates.

Doors always open from inside out. Tilt & Turn windows will always open to inside. Single glazed or economy double glazed windows open to outside.

IMPORTANT: Do not fix the door/window frames to the wall logs! If you decide to do so, you can fix them with a couple of screws in the lower part of frame, as when logs dry out cabin is settling and door frames will be damaged/distorted.

IMPORTANT: Final adjustments and tuning of the doors and windows can be made only some 2-3 weeks after the cabin installation, when cabin has adopted to weather conditions and atmospheric moisture, and logs have settled. When tuning the doors, you will need a hexagonal keys, spirit level and angle to check positions of frame, door sheets, then aligning of door sheets in the frame by tuning the adjustable hinges with hex -key.



Apex

Apexes are supplied in one piece for most of designs, but sometimes apex must be assembled from several parts. These parts will have to be fixed together with woodscrews, and roof beams must be fixed to apexes too. Apexes are notched to accommodate the roof beams. Keep checking with spirit level if roof beams are level, before fixing them to apex. Apexes must be screwed to the top wall logs at ends.

ATTENTION: If you notice the upper log not on the same level with apex, then you must check all wall logs below if tongues are properly sunk into grooves, tap the wall logs to get them into correct position; or plane the apex and/or side wall log some lower to get them in line for roof boards.



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Roof

Before you proceed with roof boards, check if all walls are completely level.

Start with roof cladding from the front edge of roof, smooth side of board up.

ATTENTION: Tap the boards lightly and make sure you push tongue into the groove not full way, but leaving about 3mm expansion gap, to allow swelling of roof boards when absorbing moisture from the air.

ATTENTION: Use a stable and secure ladder, don't step on the roof, as cabin structure is safe for even load (roof shingles, snow, wind, etc...) but can be not safe enough for point load.

Roof boards must be even with roof beam ends, the last board must be trimmed with a saw.

Having installed the roof cladding, and/or roof felt - proceed with fascias and felt battens.

Make sure roof shingles are covering side and front fascias and protecting them from moisture.

Shingles, felt or other roofing materials are not supplied as standard, and have to be ordered extra.



Wind ties

The purpose of wind ties is to prevent the entire roof with apexes to be lifted by gale force winds.

In many cases it is just a precaution measure, but we always recommend to tie the apexes to walls

by putting a strong screws in the middle of elongated hole to wall (in the bottom) and round hole to apex.

The screw in the elongated hole must be left not too tight, to allow for movement of wall logs.



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Floor

When cabin is built and protected from the elements, then only you can proceed with floor installation. Place the floor board on the joists and foundation frame, tap them lightly against one another and leave about 3mm expansion gap between them. Use so called secret nailing when fixing them to joists through the tongue at angle. If necessary, cut the last boards to the suitable width, leaving about 5mm gap to wall. Floor beadings will cover all expansion gaps between wall and floor boards. Beadings must be cut into required lengths and fixed by small nails.

ATTENTION: Depending on time of the year and weather conditions, floor boards may swell or settle. Dry wood is absorbing moisture from the atmosphere and floor is expanding, therefore leaving expansion gaps between floor boards and between floor and walls is a must.



Painting

Wood is natural material and must be protected from moisture and UV radiation.

If left unprotected, wood is becoming greyish or may get mold and blue stain after while. Your cabin must be treated with wood exterior grade wood stain immediately after installation.

Doors and windows must receive a multiple layer of exterior grade stain or paint, otherwise wood may absorb moisture and doors/windows can get twisted and/or stuck in frames.

When applying stain or paint, use high quality materials and tools, follow the paint application manual, avoid rainy weather and strong sunshine when painting.



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Maintenance and troubleshooting

Having properly installed, finished and painted, your cabin's lifetime is increased substantially. We recommend that you inspect the cabin thoroughly one every six months.

The possible problems are:

- Gaps appear between the logs.

Cause: something is holding logs from settling/expansion.

Solutions: If door/window frames were attached to wall logs, release them.

Storm brace is fixed too tight - loosen it's attachment.

Upper logs of cabin sitting on the window frame - remove the door/window linings and cut the bigger gap between log and frame.

Rain gutter piping does not allow for movement of wall logs - loosen the pipe attachment.

- Doors or windows stuck or difficult to operate.

Cause: The cabin walls or foundation has settled.

Solution: Check whether cabin is level, get the foundation and walls level.

Window/door frames not level - adjust them accordingly to get back to rectangular shape, frame stiles must be vertical, and jambs strictly horizontal, all angles 90 d.

Cause: The windows/doors have swelled due to moisture

Solution: Adjust door/window hinges; if necessary, plane the door or window off a few mm.