

Professional terms used by Wooden House Builder

1. **Temporary work at heights** – Work performed at least 2 m above the ground, using an erection frame, ladder, rope, cable, lifting devices or other similar tools that are used temporarily.
2. **Construction project** – A body of documents necessary for the construction and operation of a building or parts thereof, including engineering designs, specifications, instructions on maintenance and other relevant documents.
3. **Best practice in construction** – Generally accepted construction regulations issued by the Construction Regulations Council in 1994.
4. **Twisted grain, tangential slope of grain** – A deviation in the direction of wood fibres from the direction of the log's longitudinal axis.
5. **Kerf** – A longitudinal slot on the upper or underside of a log which helps to direct the fractioning of the log.
6. **Handmade log house** – A method of producing log buildings which does not use special product lines or benches for making log joints and/or where the wall logs are not profiled.
7. **Glue-laminated log** – A wall beam or log glued together from two or more wooden elements whose diameter or thickness on the shorter side is at least 70 mm.
8. **Slider** – A metal part which enables movement in a fixed direction, used for connecting log walls and non-sinking construction parts.
9. **Sapwood** – The outer part of trunk timber, which in a growing tree contains living cells and channels sap.
10. **Machine-made log building** – A method of producing a log house with the joints of the logs made by devices.
11. **Solid log** – A wall beam or log made of massive timber (not glued) whose diameter or thickness on the shorter side is at least 70 mm.
12. **Rot** – Damage caused by fungi feeding on cell walls, which effects the mechanical, physical and chemical qualities of wood.
13. **Plate log** – The top wall log supporting the rafters.
14. **Log back** – The upper side of a wall log.
15. **Wane** – The part of the log surface that has not been sawn off.
16. **Moisture content of wood/log** – The amount of water contained in timber, expressed as a percentage of the timber mass.
17. **Purlin** – A horizontal bearing log in the roof structure supporting the rafters.
18. **Eaves** – The bottom edge of a roof.
19. **Dowel** – A vertical stick in logs, penetrating two or more logs in order to ensure the stability of a wall.
20. **Blue stain** – Sapwood discolouration caused by fungi which does not affect the mechanical qualities of wood.
21. **Tenon** – The joint of a log (or logs).
There are several types of tenon. Currently, the most common corner joint in Estonia in the case of a square log is the dog neck notch (Figure 1). It is recommended to use this corner joint in buildings if the logs being used are up to 25 cm in diameter.

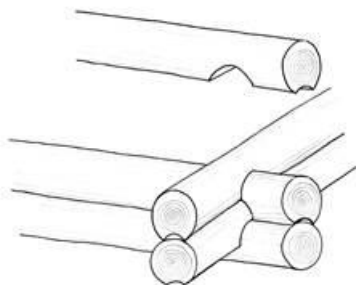
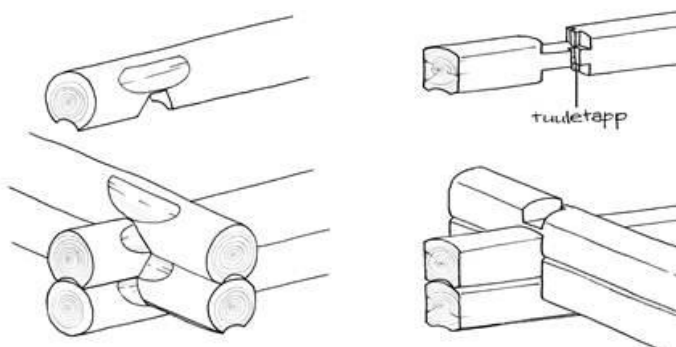


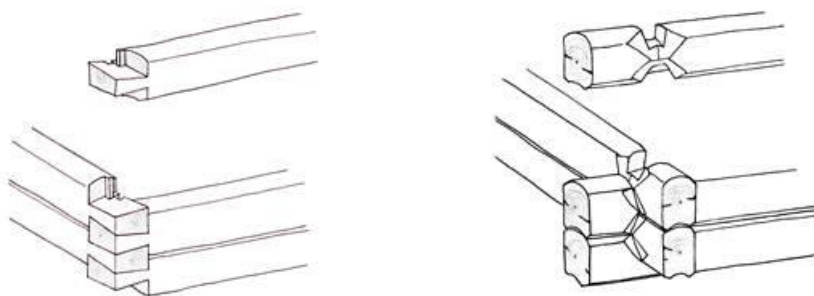
Figure 1. Dog neck notch.

If the logs have a greater diameter, it is recommended to use e.g. the Canadian tenon, which enables better log settling (Figure 2). In the case of heated buildings, it is recommended to make a wind tenon for tenons in external walls (Figure 3).



Figures 2 and 4. Canadian tenon and steep corner (*järsknurk*).

A century ago, the most common tenons in Estonia were the steep corner (*järsknurk*) in the case of long corners (*pikknurk*) (Figure 4) and the fishtail tenon in the case of clean corners (*puhasnurk*) (Figure 5). Since many companies export their products, Estonians have learned to produce tenons that are traditional of other countries. One of the most common of these is the Norwegian tenon (Figure 6).



Figures 5 and 6. Fishtail tenon and Norwegian tenon

22. **Tender pole** – A vertical support for ensuring the stability of a log not connected to the openings or cross corner and for connecting a log structure with non-sinking structures.
23. **Burr** – A knot which has become a greyish-brown or multicoloured mass and which can be rubbed down into powder.
24. **Work front** – A building site.
25. **Platform gantry** – A platform of various sizes which can be moved using lifting devices and which is designed for working at heights.
26. **Groove** – A longitudinal gutter-like hollow on a log, the edges of which copy the lower log and where the sealing material is placed.

Source: Standards for log houses of the Estonian Woodhouse Association recommended minimum requirements for heated log houses produced in Estonia (accessible online at http://puitmajaliit.ee/files/Eesti%20Puitmajaliidu%20standardid%20palkehitistele_2%20redakts.pdf)