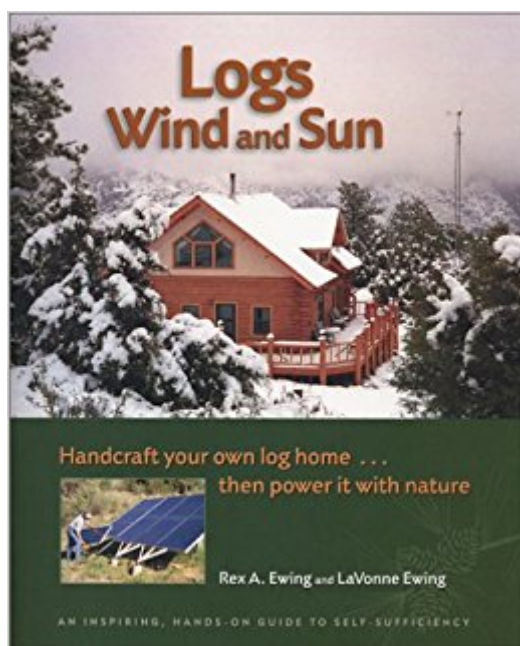


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# Logs, Wind And Sun: Handcraft Your Own Log Home ... Then Power It With Nature



## Synopsis

Logs, Wind and Sun (now completely revised and released under a new title, Crafting Log Homes Solar Style) is an inspiring, hands-on guide to self-sufficiency that takes you through every aspect of handcrafting a log home and then bringing it to life using power from the wind and sun. With a minimum of equipment and outside labor, the authors built their own log home from the ground up and installed a renewable energy system that supplies all the electricity they need to live and work comfortably, far from the nearest power line. Drawing on their own experiences, and those of others in the Colorado Rockies, they show you simply and enjoyably just how attainable off-the-grid, log home living can be. In the log-home building section, author Rex Ewing discusses site selection, plans and permits, excavation and foundation work, lifting and building with logs, roof framing, log settling issues, chinking and finishing logs. The renewable energy section includes 'A New Philosophy of Freedom', harvesting solar and wind energy, heating of house and water, and pumping water. And for the woman's point of view, you will find LaVonne's LogBooks, a chronological diary of their two-year log-home project. Filled with over 300 photos and illustrations, plus a comprehensive appendix with additional resources.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

Many people dream of getting back to nature and living self-sufficiently in a house built with their own hands. The Ewings show readers how to do just that in this account of how they built a log house and then powered it using sun and wind. For most people, this would be a monumental

undertaking, and so it was for the Ewings. In one case, their logs were delivered a mile from their homesite, and they had to move them the rest of the way themselves. Using a combination of brains and hard work, they solved this problem and many others. The Ewings take a clear, step-by-step approach to log building-a project one obviously should not undertake without considerable building experience. Fully a third of the text is devoted to explaining how to run one's home completely off the power grid. Readers are offered a wealth of hard-to-find information about solar photovoltaic modules, wind generators, charge controllers, batteries, inverters-all fully explained in the Ewings' easygoing, pragmatic manner with an emphasis on safety (had this material been offered during the Y2K mania, the authors would have made a mint). This section makes their work stand out from other log-building books. Purchase where there is strong reader interest in building construction or in rural living. Copyright 2002 Reed Business Information, Inc.

Because this book is so much fun to read, you'll not notice how much you are learning about foundations, log settling, chinking, solar and wind power and so much more. The authors have liberally peppered the book with humorous stories about the adventures and experiences involved in building their home. I got a few odd looks from office-mates here when I laughed out loud at one of the escapades. Perhaps this book is best read first while curled up in bed or your favorite chair, and then again at a desk with a notepad and pencil beside you for taking notes. --T. Johnston, Log Home Store

This book is in great condition for being used. is signed by the authors which is cool. great book for learning how to build a log home. ...excellent resource.

Mr. & Mrs. Ewings book is simply the best of it's kind love it. They know and share there knowlage with out reservation. Thank You Rex&LaVonne.

These people could save you thousands of dollars on just set-up and construction methods. Read cover to cover you will be much more confident. I felt like i was right there with them!

Logs, Wind and Sun is one of those rare books that is both packed with useful information and enjoyable to read. I only wish it had been available five years ago when my husband and I started drawing up plans for our own log home. We spent hundreds of hours and thousands of dollars trying to get utilities to our remote mountain building site. This book clearly lays out alternative power

solutions that can give you the freedom to live with all the modern conveniences you need miles from the nearest power pole. The authors personal experience provides the framework for the book, but they have obviously done their homework, and all their recommendations are backed up by copious facts. The book is generously sprinkled with photos and illustrations that de-mystify and explain and personal stories that entertain and inspire. LaVonne's Verities and Rex's Maxims give you personal insights and quips. And the writing is several notches above most other how-to books, offering emotional insights into the process of building your own home, as well as the more expected practical fare. I would highly recommend this book to anyone who's ever dreamed about building a log home.

When I started reading Logs Wind and Sun, I imagined I would skim the more detailed parts about construction since I don't plan to build a log home. I bought the book because I was interested in solar and wind generated electricity. But in the end, I read everything. Whenever I tried to skim, I soon came across something that caught my interest and, before I realized it, I was totally entranced with the story. The framed inserts break up the flow of the text and add little tid bits of information just when some variety is necessary. Rex's Maxims and LaVonne's Verities are a novel way of introducing light humor while at the same time making an important point. The illustrations were very concise, attractive and easily understandable. The photography was out of this world and the photos very appropriately located within the text. Every photo enhanced the message on the page where it was found. Logs Wind and Sun is clearly a product of team work, the story of a couple who, working together, accomplished their dream. I loved it, and also learned what I wanted to know about solar and wind power.

I have been reading everything I can find about log homes. Most of the books I have read are more like an information text book. Lots of facts but boring. Logs Wind and Sun gives you the facts and how to use them along with a very enjoyable story of the trials and tribulations the authors encountered building there own log home. This gives you a much better idea of what to expect building your own log home from scrath or from a kit. The detailed information on solar and wind energy is a real eye opener. It opened up a whole new possibility of finding what my wife and I want in a piece of land to build our retirement log home on. We thought that land with no power was out of the question. Now we know that is exactly what we want. With this book you have nearly all the information you need to build a self sufficient log home. If your dream is to have a log home in the mountains far from the "rat race", Logs Wind and Sun is a must have book. Live your dreams!

A very inspiring and fun read! Written by a couple who had the courage to pursue their dreams, this book is written for you and me with lots of details, wit and humor. One of the funnest books I have read in years.

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