

TECHNICAL NOTES

FOREST PRODUCTS LABORATORY

U. S. FOREST SERVICE

MADISON, WISCONSIN

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HOW TO RETAIN THE BARK ON LOGS USED IN RUSTIC CONSTRUCTION

For preventing the bark from flaking off logs used in rustic structures, the Forest Products Laboratory, Madison, Wis., recommends the following methods of seasoning and preparing the timbers as the most effectual:

- (1) Cut timbers late in summer and score on two sides; that is, cut off narrow strips of bark for the entire length. Pile in shade in open pile to allow thorough circulation of air. Allow timbers to season until following spring or summer before using.
- (2) Proceed as in (1), and in addition coat ends, stripped portions, and knots with coal-tar creosote, using one coat a few days after timber is cut and another just before using the timbers.
- (3) Proceed as in (1), but do not score bark. When timbers are in place, tack bark on with large-headed nails, placing one to every square foot of surface. Paint heads of nails to resemble color of bark.
- (4) Tack or nail the bark on without particular attention to time of cutting or other treatment.

The nailing method has been used successfully by one western company which maintains numerous rustic hotels, and also on a large rustic building erected for exposition purposes.