

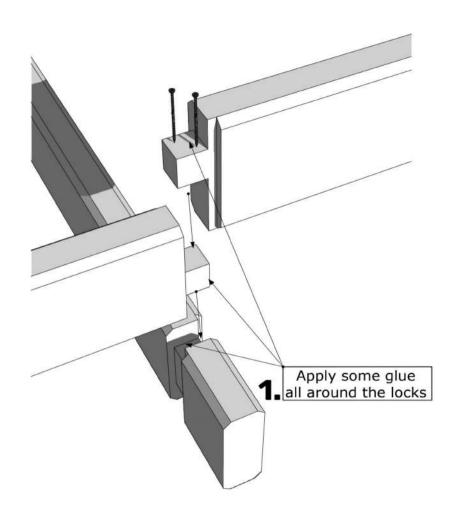
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Connecting your wall logs properly is one of the most critical steps in building a sturdy, long-lasting cabin. This process creates the structural integrity that will keep your cabin walls secure for years to come. Take your time with each connection - rushing this step could lead to gaps, instability, or structural issues later.

#### What You'll Need

- » Wood glue (exterior-grade recommended)
- » Two screws per connection
- » Drill with bits

- » Small drill bit for pilot holes
- » Screwdriver or drill bits
- » Clean cloth for excess glue remova



**Wall log connection** – 1. Apply some glue all around the log locks



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### **Step-by-Step Process**

#### Step 1: Prepare and Apply Wood Glue

Why this matters: The glue creates a weatherproof seal and adds extra holding power to your connection.

- » Clean both log surfaces of any dirt, sawdust, or debris
- » Apply a generous but even layer of wood glue completely around the lock areas where the logs will connect
- » Don't be stingy with the glue you want full coverage around the entire locking mechanism
- » Work relatively quickly as wood glue begins to set within 10-15 minutes

#### **Step 2: Connect the Locks**

Why this matters: Poor alignment here will create gaps that allow air, moisture, and pests to enter your cabin.

- » Carefully bring the two logs together
- » Apply firm, even pressure to ensure the locks seat completely
- » Check that there are no gaps between the locking surfaces
- » Wipe away any excess glue that squeezes out immediately with a damp cloth
- » The connection should feel solid and tight

#### **Step 3: Secure with Screws**

Critical safety note: This step prevents the wood from splitting and ensures a permanent connection.

#### **Before Screwing:**

- » ALWAYS predrill pilot holes This is not optional! Skipping this step often results in cracked logs
- » Use a drill bit slightly smaller than your screw diameter
- » Drill slowly to avoid splintering

#### **Screw Placement (Very Important):**

- » Use exactly two screws per connection as shown in the diagram
- » Never place screws in line with the wood grain this is the #1 cause of splitting
- » Position screws at an angle across the grain direction
- » Follow the exact placement shown in your diagram
- » Drive screws firmly but don't overtighten this can strip the wood or cause cracking



## **Quality Check**

After completing each connection:

- » Check that the joint is tight with no visible gaps
- » Ensure the connection feels solid when gently tested
- » Verify screws are flush with the wood surface
- » Clean any remaining excess glue

### **Important Notes**

- » This technique applies to ALL joints in your cabin except simple joint types (detailed in paragraph 15 of your manual)
- » Weather conditions matter avoid gluing in very cold or wet conditions
- » If you make a mistake, it's better to start over than to have a weak connection
- » Take breaks fatigue leads to mistakes with these precision connections

### **Common Mistakes to Avoid**

- » Rushing the glue application
- » Not predrilling pilot holes
- » Placing screws parallel to wood grain
- » Not cleaning excess glue promptly
- » Forcing misaligned connections

## Remember:

Each connection you make affects the overall strength and weather-resistance of your entire cabin. Taking extra care at this stage will save you maintenance headaches and ensure your cabin stands strong for decades.



