

DON'T HIRE THAT NEW CONTRACTOR BEFORE ASKING THESE 5 QUESTIONS



**WEST COAST
RESTORATION**

At West Coast Restoration, we have been called many times to repair structural log restoration work that was improperly done by so-called restoration contractors who, unfortunately, did not know the full scope of the work they were doing.

Before you let that contractor take a chainsaw to your home, make sure to ask them these 5 questions.

1: How many log homes have you built and where?

When it comes to structural log replacement, it's not enough to have only worked on a log home. Your contractor needs to have a full understanding of how log homes are built, the proper tools and techniques... and the experience to back it up. Find out exactly how many log homes they have built, as well as their locations. If they don't have experience in your area or climate, or the species of logs being used on the repair, you could easily end up with more problems down the road.

2: Can you read engineered drawings on the work you're proposing?

Understanding how to read engineered drawings and blueprints is as important as a carpenter knowing how to use a hammer. These drawings are not just for visualizing the project; they map out the dimensions, parts, placement, bearing loads, and materials for each project. If your contractor does not know how to read engineering drawings, they're setting you up for disaster.

3: Are your employees qualified to perform structural log repair/replacement tasks?

After you've first verified that your contractor is licensed and qualified for the job, it's time to learn about the team. Structural repair for log homes is complex and requires a full team of experts to get it done right. The last thing you want is to hire another contractor a year or two down the road because of poor training.

For example; at West Coast Restoration, we require all new team members to have a minimum of 10 years of experience working in the log building industry, at least 3 of those years as a supervisor, and a full understanding of structural restoration. This ensures quality work that is meant to last.



4: Ask for references- and not just the recent ones!

While all references certainly do count, it's important that you ask your contractor for references as far back as possible. Lasting results require know-how, and that knowledge is gained with time and successfully completed projects. Your contractor should be able to give you names and contact information of at least 3-5 clients. Ask each client if the job was completed on time, were they satisfied, or were there unexpected costs? Be sure to ask for references for jobs done several years ago, not just last month!



5: How are you going to complete the log replacement if there is a framed wall (interior kitchen cabinets, bathroom cabinets, showers, etc.) adjacent to the logs that need to be repaired (if applicable)?

Structural log repair is very different from your average stick-framed house projects. If your contractor does not have a firm grasp on how to perform these replacements, a year down the road you might find yourself with sagging, uneven logs, or windows and doors that don't open properly after the structure settles.

Please note that doing structural log repair is as important, if not more so, than the new log construction. If you have a contractor that is willing to take a chainsaw to your house, that person must possess a complete understanding of the area to be repaired. If you have any questions or concerns during your hiring process, give West Coast Restoration a call

With more than 50 years of combined experience, West Coast Restoration has successfully replaced more than 52,000 linear feet of logs on homes of various ages and historical applications.

We also now offer financing to help ease the strain on your wallet!



Contact Us

(360) 961-3220

westcoastrestoration.com