

Basics of Applying Timber Chink and Timber Match

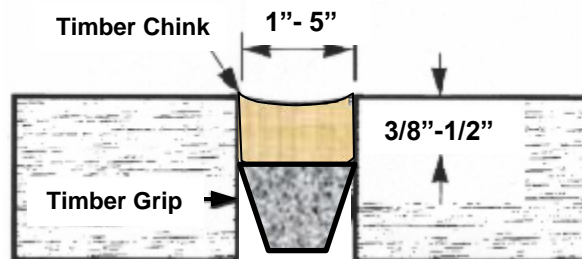
1. Start with clean logs that have already been treated with a preservative and stain compatible with Timber Chink or Timber Match
2. Install a "bond-breaker," i.e., backer rod, Mylar tape, painters tape.
3. Apply Timber Chink or Timber Match by use caulk gun, bulk loading gun, or commercial machinery designed for caulk or chink.
4. Tool Timber Chink or Timber Match to ensure proper adhesion and texture. For best results, fill a clean spray bottle with water or a 70% isopropyl alcohol (IPA) and water mixture. Lightly mist Timber Chink or Timber Match with the water or IPA/water mixture to allow the trowel to glide over the surface when tooling.

Application Guidelines

Joint Design: The proper joint width should be a minimum of 4 times the anticipated movement of the logs. This includes movement due to log shrinkage, house settling, and loading factors.

For joints 1" in width or more, the depth should be 3/8" to 1/2". The depth of joints less than 1" wide should be half the width, but no less than 1/4". (Timber Chink will span joints 3"-5" wide.)

These joint guidelines are to ensure sufficient Timber Chink or Timber Match material mass to absorb log movement and maintain a tight seal for an extended period of time. Regardless of the width, the depth should not be greater than 1/2".





Backing Material: A backing material should be installed between logs prior to chinking. Timber Grip trapezoidal backer-rod is recommended. This backer-rod is a unique closed-cell foam with a flat chinking surface and built in bond breaker. If round backing material is used, care must be taken to apply sufficient material over the apex (center) of the rod so that the chinking is not too thin. Insufficient material thickness at the center line of round backer rod makes this joint design susceptible to tearing.

Surface Preparation: Surfaces should be clean, structurally sound and free of uncured oils, dirt or other loose materials. Timber Chink or Timber Match may be applied to slightly damp logs if no additional water is actively rewetting the surface.

Wood Treatment: A good wood stain or coating is highly recommended for exterior surfaces, and most should be applied before chinking. Wood sealers, preservatives, or stains should be thoroughly cured before applying Timber Chink or Timber Match.

Most stains or sealers designed for log home applications are compatible with Timber Chink or Timber Match. A few sealers (especially those heavy in wax content) may interfere with adhesion of any chink or caulk. Please contact Timber Edge Products with specific questions regarding material compatibility.

The stain or sealer may be applied over cured Timber Chink or Timber Match. The chink or caulk material will retain some of the stain color and will affect the final color of the chink or caulk. Note that chink and caulk will absorb or retain the stain differently from the surrounding wood. It is recommended that a field trial of the stain tint of the chink or caulk be conducted before proceeding with the full structure.

Surface temperature: Surface temperature of the wood should be between 40° and 95°F when applying Timber Chink or Timber Match.

Material Application: When purchased in 5-gallon pails, the Timber Edge Badger Pump or other commercially available pumping systems or professional grade bulk loading guns (Albion, Cox, etc.) may be used. Because Timber Chink and Timber Match contain some heavy forms of calcium carbonates (limestone) only pump equipment specifically designed for use with chink or textured caulk should be used. When supplied in tubes or cartridges, Timber Chink or Timber Match can be applied using conventional caulk guns.

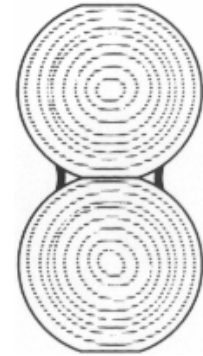
Tooling: Timber Chink or Timber Match may be tooled with ordinary masonry-type tooling blades of 3/4" to 1½" in width. A high quality stainless steel blade is recommended for ease of application. For best results, fill a clean spray bottle with water or with a 70% isopropyl alcohol (IPA) and water mixture. The choice of water or IPA/water mixture is at the discretion of the applicator and normally depends on ambient temperature and open time needed for proper tooling. As a general rule, as the



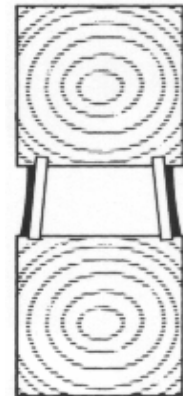


temperature increases the amount of alcohol in the mixture should decrease. Lightly mist Timber Chink or Timber Match with the water or alcohol/water mixture to allow the trowel to glide over the surface when tooling. A damp polyethylene foam brush may also be used for tooling. The foam brush technique will enhance the surface texture of the final joint. Timber Chink or Timber Match should be tooled tightly to contact at least 3/8" of the log surface beyond the backer-rod or bond breaker.

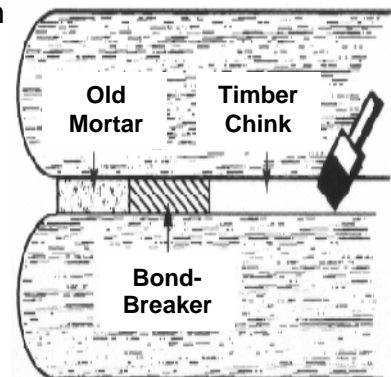
Round Logs: Make sure Timber Chink or Timber Match has been tooled right to the log surface. Timber Chink or Timber Match should contact between 3/8" and 1/2" of the log surface. Use a steel blade or foam brush following the tooling technique described above to work the material smooth, keeping a rag handy to pick up drips of water and excess Timber Chink or Timber Match.



Square Logs: Make sure the spline is dry and clean before applying Timber Chink or Timber Match. Apply tape on the center of the spline as a bond breaker. In a properly designed joint the chink material will be adhered to only the upper and lower log edges and allowed to expand or contract on the spline surface. Because the joints are often very wide (up to 4") multiple passes are often required to apply sufficient material. Timber Chink should be applied to the upper and lower edges of the joint first, and if a gap exists between the two beads, fill the gap with additional material. It is very important to tool the bead, especially along the upper and lower edges so that Timber Chink is forced into good contact with the logs for proper adhesion. Use a stainless steel blade or putty knife to strike off excess Timber Chink, making the joint level with the logs. Follow the tooling technique described above to smooth the material, keeping a rag handy to absorb drips and wipe off excess Timber Chink.



Log Restoration: When using Timber Chink or Timber Match as a restoration chinking over old mortar, a "bond-breaker" tape should be applied to the center of the existing mortar. A variety of plastic and coated tapes may be used, such as Mylar packaging tape, blue painters tape or masking tape. The bond breaker provides a surface Timber Chink or Timber Match will not stick to; when log movement occurs, Timber Chink or Timber Match will be free to stretch and the integrity of the joint will be preserved. Timber Chink or Timber Match should be tooled to contact at least 1/2" of bare wood surface on either side of the old mortar. This will ensure adequate adhesion.





Clean-up and Disposal

Dispose of Timber Chink or Timber Match in accordance with local guidelines. Do not dispose of in drinking water supplies. Soap and water may be used for cleaning hands, surfaces and equipment. Toxic solvents are not required for clean-up.

Material Coverage

To calculate gallons of product needed, find the feet per gallon and divide your lineal feet by that number. Although this chart is rounded up where needed, it does not include a waste factor. If your estimations generally result in a shortage confirm your assumed average joint depth.

Estimation Guide: Linear Feet Per Gallon of Timber Chink											
Depth of Joint (inches)	Width of Joint (inches)										
	1/2	3/4	1	1 1/4	1 1/2	2	2 1/2	3	3 1/2	4	5
1/4	148	98	74	59	49	37	29	24	21	18	14
3/8	98	65	49	39	32	24	19	16	14	12	9
1/2	74	49	37	29	24	18	14	12	10	9	7





Frequently Asked Questions

Log Movement

Occasionally, some logs on any home may undergo extreme movement due to their changing moisture content as they come to equilibrium in their new location. Most logs, as they go through the repeated seasonal process of taking on and giving up moisture, will undergo moderate dimensional changes. These seasonal changes will impose moderate levels of stress on the sealants applied to them. An occasional log will twist, shrink or warp - in response to changes in its moisture content - in an extreme way, moving more than any sealant can possibly handle. When this extreme movement occurs it will cause the sealant to fail either cohesively or adhesively. If the failure is cohesive (sealant splits down the middle) then the repair is performed by cleaning the surface of the failed sealant and reapplying more. If the failure is adhesive (sealant pulls away from the substrate), then the sealant needs to be removed and completely redone.

Blisters

Blisters are a phenomenon commonly found in the caulking and sealant industry. They form when moisture from the chinking accumulates in voids beneath the bead and gets hot from the sun. Blisters appear as "bubble" in the material and vary widely in size. Shield freshly chinked walls from the sun with white tarps. If this cannot be done, keep a close eye on the chinked wall for the first 24-48 hours. To repair a blister that forms in the chink or caulk, puncture a hole in the middle of the blister to expose the void. Next gently push the material back into place. After 3-5 days cure time, touch-up the repaired blister with additional Timber Chink or Timber Match.

