

Puttylastic™ Log Home Sealing Caulk

...The Soft-Seal, Remains Soft and Flexible!

- Unique Sealing Qualities
- Unexpected Rain Won't Create a Mess
- Works in a Wider Range of Weather Conditions

What is Puttylastic? – Puttylastic is an excellent, all-weather log home construction caulk. Unlike other caulks, it is not as sensitive to adverse weather conditions, has better tube stability, and possesses attributes that are more suited to the unique nature of log homes. Puttylastic is designed to “cure” extremely slow. Its distinguishing feature is its ability to retain a soft, mobile seal over an extended period of time.

There are no copycats, Puttylastic is one of a kind! – We challenge you to find a caulk similar to Puttylastic. There is simply no other caulk like it. Puttylastic is unique because of its proprietary formula that utilizes ingredients that are not typical to caulking compounds.

The Puttylastic Difference – “The Soft Seal” – When a proper size and shape bead is used (approximately 3/8" round), Puttylastic will remain in a soft, semi-fluid state for years. This distinctive characteristic is why Puttylastic is referred to as “the soft seal”. Because it stays soft, Puttylastic can adjust to the stress and tension of log movement. Many rubberized caulks used for log construction create a glue-like bond that can cause or aggravate stress within the log or on its surface. But because of its semi-fluid nature, Puttylastic yields to log movement without creating undue stress within the log.

Puttylastic is ideal for internal sealing – Rubberized caulks rely on two-point contact for maximum stretch, flexibility, and seal. But any caulk used for internal joint sealing will encounter multiple points of contact, *not the two point contact required for the successful seal of a rubberized caulk*. Unlike harder rubberized caulks, Puttylastic is naturally suited for multiple point sealing because of its semi-fluid, self-sealing nature that tends to flow with log movement instead of resisting it. Thus, during the critical early stages when the greatest amount of log movement occurs, Puttylastic is much more likely to maintain a better internal seal.

Puttylastic does not require any critical surface preparation – When building a log home, care should be taken to keep the log surface free of debris. However, Puttylastic doesn't require any special type of surface preparation to achieve good adhesion. Surface primers on the wood are not required before caulking, nor will minor surface dampness or colder temperatures affect its adhering qualities.

Puttylastic is very user friendly at the job site – Puttylastic can be used in colder and more adverse weather conditions without affecting its sealing properties. Unlike latex caulks, should it rain or snow during construction, Puttylastic will not wash off and create a mess or lose its sealing properties. Thus, it is a more practical and effective caulk for use in the real world conditions of the job site.

Freeze/Thaw cycles won't affect Puttylastic – Freezing cold temperatures will not damage Puttylastic. Water-based latex caulks can't handle many freeze/thaw cycles without incurring permanent damage to the caulk compound. Puttylastic, however, can be stored in a minimally heated warehouse without harm or concern.

How long will Puttylastic last in the tube? – Stored under proper conditions, Puttylastic is useable for up to an incredible five years. With Puttylastic, there's no need to worry about inventory concerns due to a limited shelf life of the caulk. Plus, job delays and money wasted on tube stability problems, a common feature of Polyurethane caulks, are virtually eliminated.

Used successfully since 1974! – Puttylastic has been used to seal tens of thousands of log homes since 1974. Its success and outstanding reputation has been built on a foundation that spans over three decades of sealing log homes.

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PUTTYLASTIC Log Home Sealing Caulk

Sealing Log Homes since 1974!

Surface Preparation: Make sure surfaces are clean and free of loose debris, sawdust, frost, ice, etc., before caulking.

Application: For superior results, apply a minimum 3/8" rounded bead with a caulk gun. Best to use when temperatures are moderate and conditions are dry. Recommended temperature range is 45°F/7°C to 90°F/32°C. Although not ideal conditions for construction, Puttylastic can be applied in colder temperatures (down to 20°F/ -7°C) without affecting its sealing qualities but care should be taken to keep the Puttylastic warm (60°F/16°C) in order to keep the caulking compound workable. When using in such cold conditions, an experienced applicator is strongly recommended.

Coverage:

12.8-oz. tube (3/8" round bead) approximately 12 lineal feet.

32-oz. tube (3/8" round bead) approximately 30 lineal feet.

5 gal. pail. (3/8" round bead) approximately 600 lineal feet.

Dry: Extremely slow. A slight skin will form in 48-72 hours.

Clean-up: Mineral Spirits.

Internal Sealing (between the logs): For best results, some allowance of space between the logs is recommended that provides a channel for the caulk material. Apply a 3/8" to 1/2" rounded bead along designated caulk area. Also, if design permits, apply Puttylastic in butt joint areas in conjunction with wood or hardboard spline, dowel, etc.

External Sealing: Apply a 3/8" to 1/2" rounded bead along exterior logs seams. If possible, wait 12 to 18 months after the structure is built to allow the logs to shrink and settle before caulking the log seams. Also apply around windows, doors, upward facing cracks, log corners, etc. In larger (1/2" to 3/4") and deeper openings, insert polyethylene backer rod to partially fill the gaps while leaving enough space to caulk over at a 1/4" to 3/8" thickness. Not recommended for widths larger than 3/4".

Adhesion Over Different Wood Stains: Puttylastic will adhere to oil-based and water-based wood stains and preservatives, including WOOD guard™ and other mineral/paraffin oil based stains.

Doors and Windows: Apply a generous bead at butt joints before installing windows and door buck material.

Shelf Life: Three to five years when stored in a dry, sheltered environment.

When a proper size and shape bead is applied (3/8"-1/2" rounded) PUTTYLASTIC will remain soft and flexible for years. Because of its soft, semi-fluid nature, it can easily adjust to the stress and tension of log movement. Thus,

during the early stages of log shrink-age and settling,

PUTTYLASTIC is more likely to maintain a better seal.



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SEALING A LOG HOME

A Systems

APPROACH

— By Michael McArthur

The one area that is vulnerable in a log home is its joints or seams. Because a log home can literally consist of miles of seams, keeping them air and water tight is critical. Infiltration of outdoor air between the log seams generates costly fuel bills and incursion of water into the seams from rain and snow can eventually cause mold and mildew infestations which can then lead to decaying logs. In addition, poorly sealed log joints make surface maintenance more difficult because of moisture that accumulates between the logs and migrates to the surrounding surface areas that are coated with a protective wood stain. In order to avoid these types of problems, proper attention must be paid to the log home sealing "system."

The word "system" is purposefully chosen here because there is no single factor that can promise to deliver a successful seal at the log joints. Caulk, foam gaskets, fasteners, and log design alone will not guarantee positive sealing results. Like the pieces of a puzzle, a reliable sealing system requires that all its essential components work together in order to achieve a weather tight fit.

The approaches to sealing a log home are as varied as the log home manufacturers in existence today. The fact that there are so many different log profiles and designs (i.e., tongue & groove, Swedish cope, spline & miter, chink, etc) eliminates any one type of sealing method. However, no matter what the log design or method of sealing, there are certain basic sealing elements that need to be considered to insure the best possible seal at the log joints.

The Basic Elements of the Sealing System are:

- ☛ The grade and type of logs used
- ☛ The moisture content of the logs
- ☛ Accuracy and consistency in the milling process
- ☛ Quality and type of sealant materials and fastener hardware used
- ☛ Log design and sealant/fastener placement
- ☛ Building design within the context of its location
- ☛ Log construction techniques
- ☛ Weather conditions during the building process

Obviously, there is no *single* element alone that can insure a weather tight seal. The log manufacturer, the building designer, the sealant manufacturer, the fastener manufacturer, and the construction crew all play important interrelated roles in the sealing equation. The performance of the sealing system will always be influenced by the soundness of its individual parts. Its longevity and reliability will ultimately depend on how well the pieces of the sealing puzzle fit together.