

ZAR - United Gilsonite Laboratories photos

Homeowner Tips for the Finest in Finishes

Consider these color, application, and maintenance tips when choosing the right stain and finish combination for your log or timber home today and tomorrow.



LEFT This 15 year old, hand hewn chick siding building was stripped to bare wood and recoated with two coats of ZAR Platinum Pro in Butternut.

BELOW This is a D-log siding home finished with ZAR Platinum Pro in Mahogany over

As a log or timber homeowner, take the guesswork out of the equation when choosing the stain/finish that provides the fresh, vibrant look you want to achieve inside and out, and blend in the best available durability characteristics, protection, and resistance to harsh weather. Jeff Brooks, a veteran sales and quality specialist with United Gilsonite Laboratories (UGL), has seen some products reach heights of popularity among professionals and do-it-yourself homeowners and then just fade away through the years. Take these tips to heart. UGL offers sound advice for those building new homes or seeking the best outcome for improvements. Choose wisely:

- **Assess** the log or timber home's current conditions; new construction versus existing stain will influence the decision for the best option based on compatibility standards.
- **Explore preferences** fully and consider subtle differences such as



deep penetrating oils versus surface stains. Both options can offer similar aesthetics at the time of application; however, the functionality will vary in terms of durability.

- **Choose a stain/finish** composed of inorganic pigments rather than organic pigments. ZAR Platinum PRO contains inorganic pigments, which are preferred for long-lasting products to preserve colors during exposure to sunlight, chemicals, or extreme weather conditions.
- **Take notice** of the position and location of your log or timber home.

How much sun exposure do you receive? How shaded is the area where your log or timber home sits? Answers to these questions can help determine the attributes most important to you in purchasing the appropriate stain/finish.

- **Prep...prep...prep.** A clean, dull, and dry surface with low moisture content in the wood substrate is important for the stain/finish application's success.
- **Remember versatility.** Take advantage of a stain/finish that can be used not only on the exterior but

also on interior logs and timber as well to provide a natural look on the interior of your log or timber home.

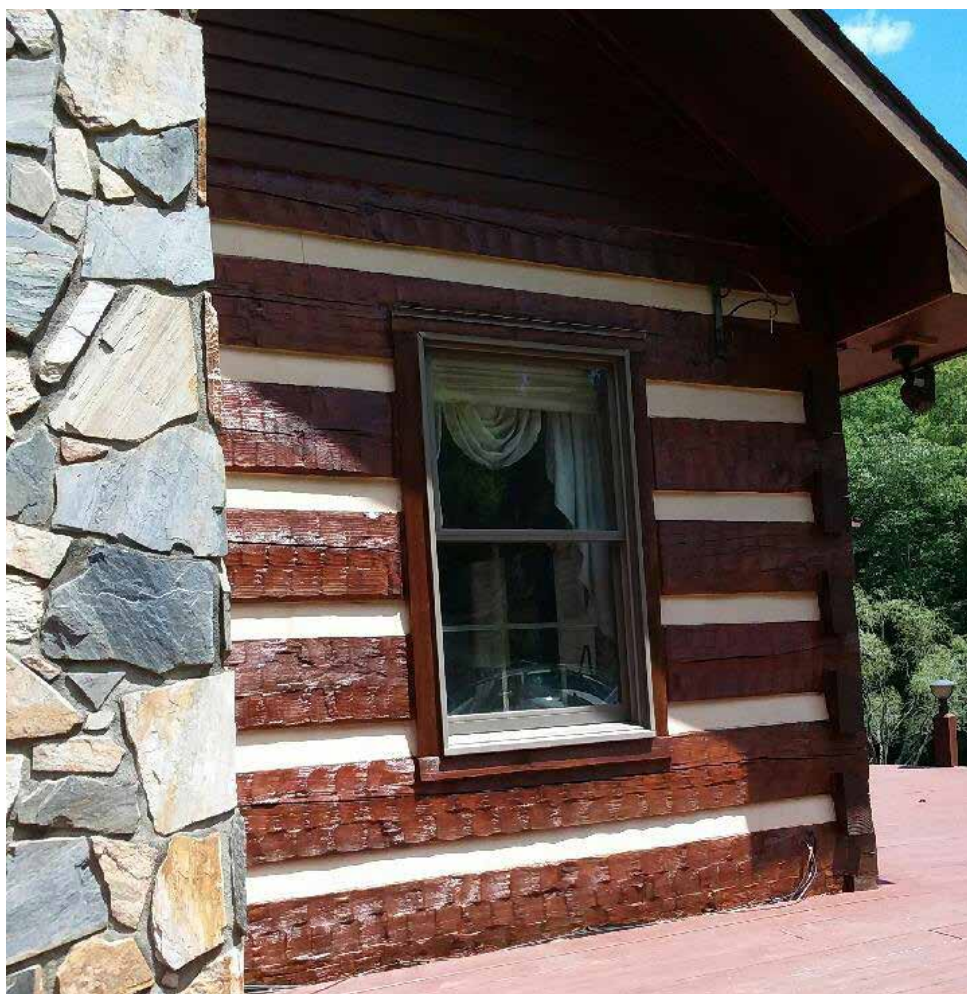
- **Choose a stain and/or finish** that offers ready-mixed colors. This will help ensure color uniformity when using multiple containers of the same product.
- **Consider the influencers of color.** These include the color of the wood itself, the absorption capacity and porosity of the wood, and the condition of the wood. Is the wood brand new, recently sanded, previously drenched by sunlight and weather?
- **Ask a few simple questions.** What overall aesthetic is to be achieved? Light, mid-tone or dark? How will the finish complement other materials used in construction, such as stone or masonry?
- **Check the weather forecast.** Ideal conditions of temperature and humidity are prime considerations. Generally, if rain or other precipitation is expected within 24 hours, it's a good idea to hold off until favorable conditions are predicted for a few days. Avoid applying stain/finish to surfaces currently exposed to direct sunlight – wait a bit for the accompanying heat and UV rays to subside.
- **Test your choice of finish** on an inconspicuous area of your home to determine a feel for the color prior to full application.

The choice of stain/finish color contributes to the overall aesthetic appeal of any log or timber home. Each option conveys a look and feel that is reflective of the homeowner's taste and complementary of the overall appear-



LEFT Continuation of the 15 year old, hand hewn chick siding building - ZAR Platinum Pro in Butternut.

BELOW ZAR Platinum Natural Redwood one coat over a previously stained ruff hand sawn siding house.



ance of the home. Light or dark, earth tone or something from the broad spectrum of other hues available, stain/finish color sets the tone, the mood, and the ambience.

Trendy exterior colors such as light gray, green, or white seamlessly complement the interior of the home with subtle flow and undertones of simplicity and ease, while a golden or honey hue has been standard fare for generations, a go-to option that never fails to convey warmth and easy living. A brown, ruddy red, or auburn option brings out the deep coloration of the underlying wood and adds luster to the changing seasons – the bright glow of spring and summer, the grand splash of autumn leaves, and the pure glisten of a snowy winter landscape. Ash coloration is clean and simple, allowing the splendor of the underlying wood to shine through, while deep browns and dark hues offer rich, rustic and robust contrast to lighter chinking and other design elements.

ZAR Platinum PRO is available in 10 ready-mix colors, including Barnwood Gray, Butternut, Charcoal, Chestnut Brown, Golden Wheat, Mahogany, Natural Cedar, Natural Redwood, Natural Teak, and Sage. Formulas in rich lustre and low lustre are available. Its translucent, exterior urethane finish is intended to get the job done with one application. Of course, if a darker color is desired, a second application is an option. Brush and roll are the preferred method of application on wood non-primed siding, and the finish is developed to minimize or eliminate sagging. For overall ease of application and performance, ZAR Platinum PRO is the choice, and best of all the rich colors contribute to a lifetime of enjoyment.



Beautiful Color & Durable Finish in One

T.U.F. TO BEAT



Translucent Urethane Finish (T.U.F.)

saves time and money by imparting both color and lustre in one step. Building a log and timber home? Choose a finish that brings out the beauty of natural wood AND protects it.

ZAR® Platinum Pro Translucent Urethane Finish is a specially blended finish designed for high performance protection with outstanding color retention. It generates a strong adhesive bond and a lustre finish in one or two coats.

More Features:

- Excellent resistance to corrosion and weathering
- Fortified with aliphatic urethane for durability
- Adhesion to multiple substrates
- Non-fading lustrous finish
- Thick consistency that reduces drips and mess
- **Now available in a low and rich lustre finish!**



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