

# A suburban family dreams of a getaway up north.

As kids, Chuck and Gloria Pernacciaro each enjoyed time spent outdoors on fishing and camping trips. They dream of making similar memories with their own children. With land in Wisconsin, just about two and half hours from their primary home, Chuck and Gloria hope to build a place to relax on weekends and use as a base for outdoor adventures: hiking, snowmobiling and water sports. Eventually, the couple plans to retire in this spot.

Why a log home: To match their site, Gloria prefers a rustic home with a mix of log, stone and full-log posts and beams. "For her, it's all rustic," Chuck says. "Not just a log wall here and there."

Most important features: A library where she can read and enjoy a view of the lake is on Gloria's must-have list. The kitchen and dining room need to accommodate a crowd. "We love to cook," Chuck says, "and I have a large Italian family." Cassie Christianson, a staff designer with Wisconsin Log Homes, shows how she would meet the couple's needs for a fun, rustic getaway.



Chuck and Gloria

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An octagon-shaped reading room is located just off the kitchen on the main level.

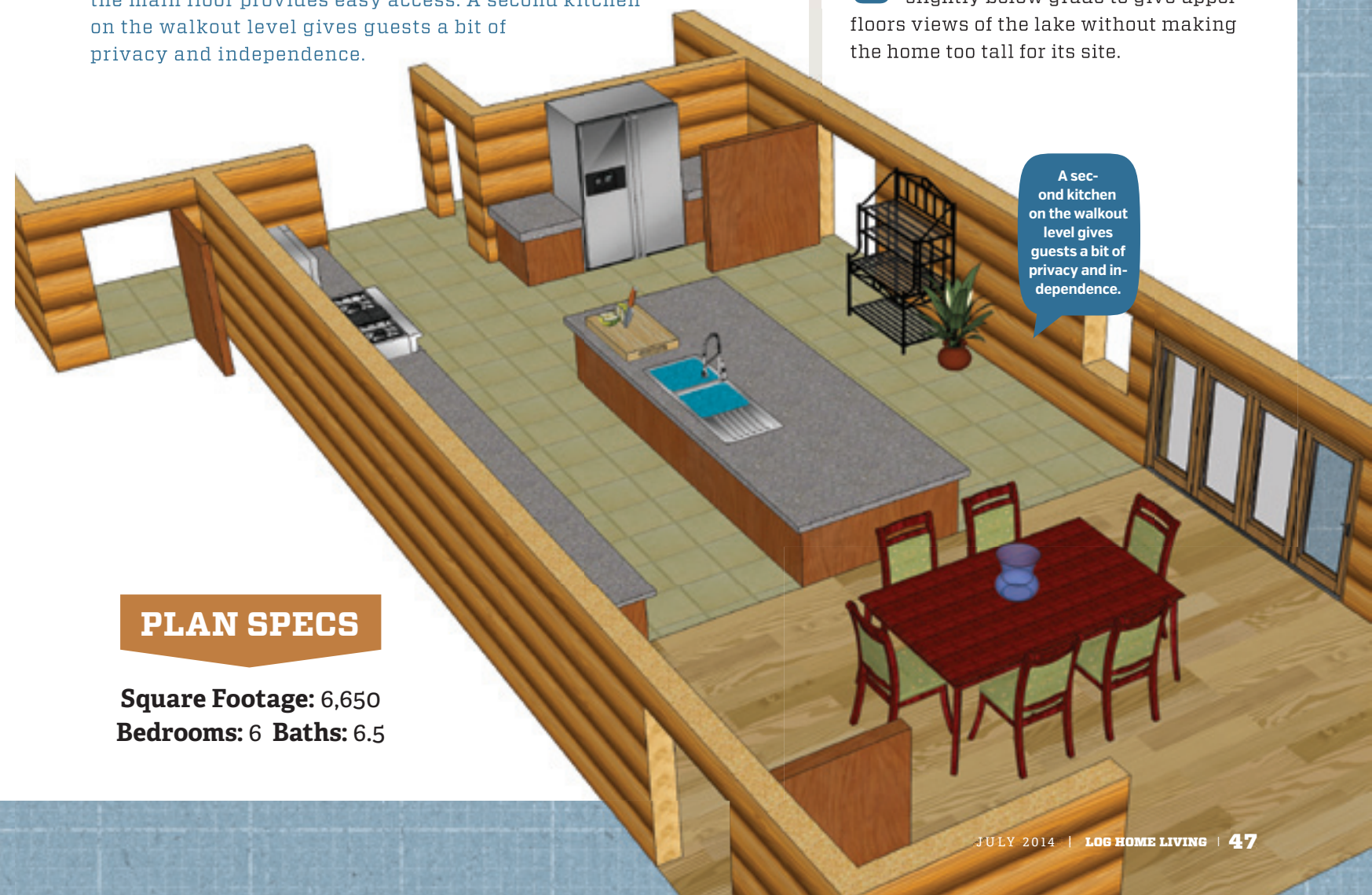
## The Lowdown

To meet the needs of family — and extended family and friends — the Pernacciaros' home should offer a variety of special-use spaces. For Gloria, an octagonal library off the kitchen serves as a reading room with a view. For an aging parent, a second master suite on the main floor provides easy access. A second kitchen on the walkout level gives guests a bit of privacy and independence.

## The Inside Scoop

Designing a home before you purchase land is like pounding a square peg into a round hole: It will never truly fit. The Pernacciaros' site is wooded along the road and features a small swampy river between the building area and the lakefront. To make a house work here, Christianson suggests:

- 1 Pushing the home as far back from the water as possible to ensure compliance with Department of National Resources' restrictions for this lake.
- 2 Careful construction practices to preserve trees — and the privacy they provide for the home.
- 3 Creating a walkout level that sits slightly below grade to give upper floors views of the lake without making the home too tall for its site.



A second kitchen on the walkout level gives guests a bit of privacy and independence.

## PLAN SPECS

Square Footage: 6,650  
Bedrooms: 6 Baths: 6.5