



First Monday Sew-day!

May 4, 2020

Maybe it's because we're all stuck inside, but I've got Log Cabin blocks on my mind.

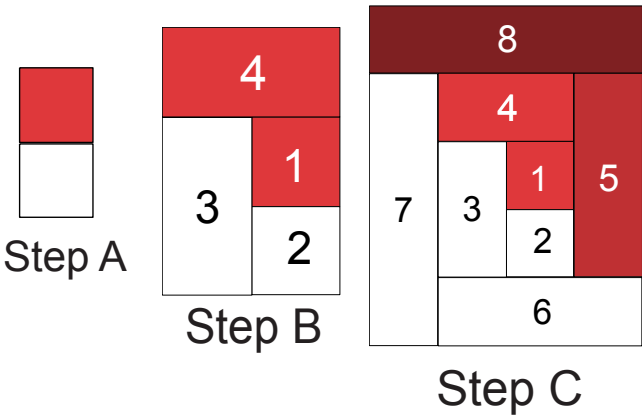
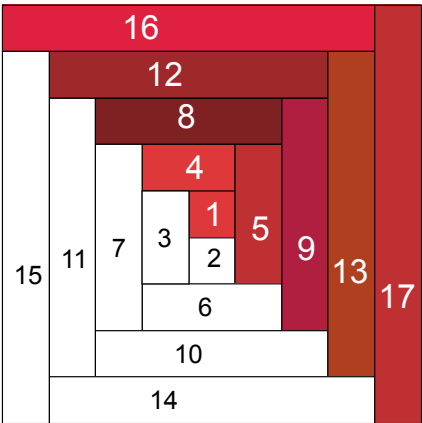
It was the second large quilt I ever made, and because back in the day we hand-quilted everything, it took me four years from start to finish (quilt is on your left).

A typical Log Cabin block begins with a center of any size, and equally sized strips are added as you move around the block. On one side, the strips are dark. On the other side, the strips are light.

The basic block is shown to the right. This finishes at 9" square, so the unfinished block will be 9 1/2" square.

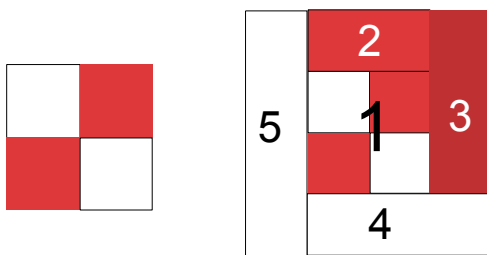
Start with a 1" center block, then add strips in the order shown. It's best to cut them to size first, otherwise your block can grow and get wonky. Pre-cut strips help control that.

Remember always to use a scant 1/4" seam allowance; test it by sewing two 2 1/2" squares together, pressing, and then measuring: they should measure 4 1/2" exactly. Adjust your seam allowance as needed.



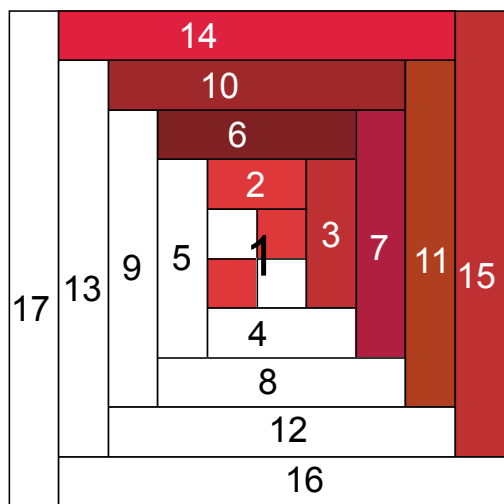
Piece	Cut Size
1, 2	1 1/2" square
3, 4	1 1/2" x 2 1/2"
5, 6	1 1/2" x 3 1/2"
7, 8	1 1/2" x 4 1/2"
9, 10	1 1/2" x 5 1/2"
11, 12	1 1/2" x 6 1/2"
13, 14	1 1/2" x 7 1/2"
15, 16	1 1/2" x 8 1/2"
17	1 1/2" x 9 1/2"

Keep going around the block, alternating lights and darks until finished.

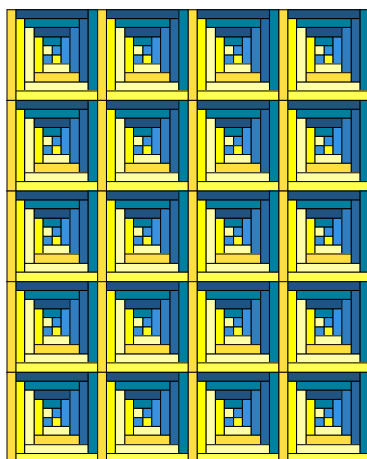


You can also begin with a larger center block, or even a four-patch.

Here's how this ten-inch (finished) block will look.



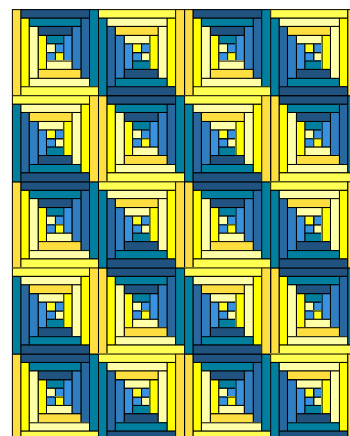
Piece	Cut Size
Center	Four-patch with each block cut 1 1/2" square.
2	1 1/2" x 2 1/2"
3, 4	1 1/2" x 3 1/2"
5, 6	1 1/2" x 4 1/2"
7, 8	1 1/2" x 5 1/2"
9, 10	1 1/2" x 6 1/2"
11, 12	1 1/2" x 7 1/2"
13, 14	1 1/2" x 8 1/2"
15, 16	1 1/2" x 9 1/2"
17	1 1/2" x 10 1/2"



Straight Set

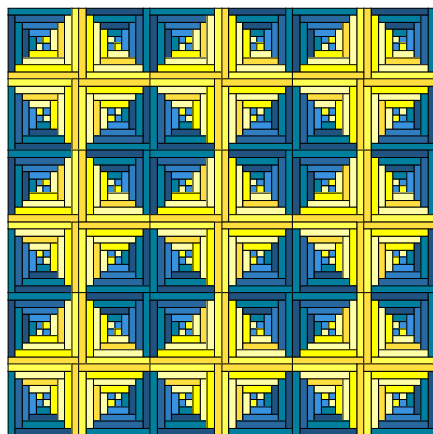
The fun comes in the layouts of these blocks.

There are many variations of this block. Have fun sewing!



Furrows

Sunshine and Shadow



Barn Raising

