

Block of the Month for June 2009

The Log Cabin

This pattern has been a favorite among quilters for more than 200 years. The finished block will be 8 inches. We are not constructing this block in a traditional fashion.

12 prints -6 light and 6 dark.

Use colors and prints you never use! Blinding brights or passive paisleys?! Which fabrics have been stashing forever? Their time has come!

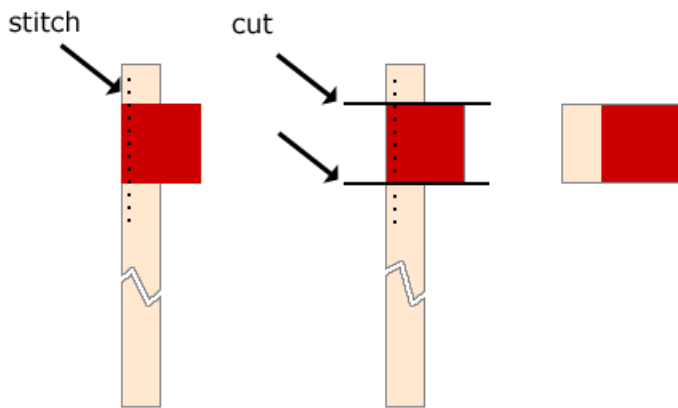
One 2 1/2 inch center square - contrasting color.

Instructions:

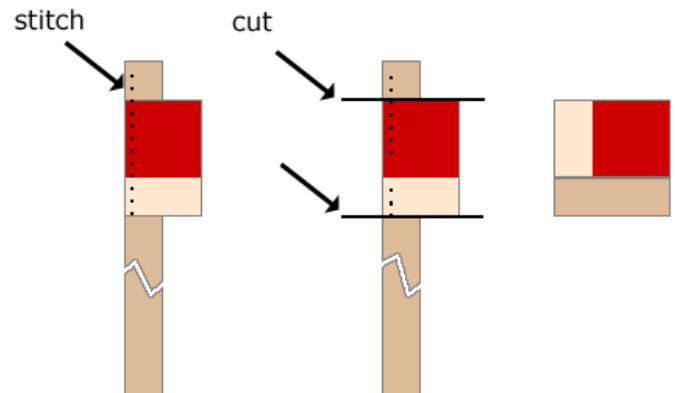
One side of the block will be light, the other dark, to give sufficient contrast. The diagonal line formed by the contrasting sides will be important to your final design.

The "logs" will be 1 1/2" strips (1" finished). The center square will be cut 2 1/2" x 2 1/2". Cut your 1 1/2" strips from your 12 fabrics. The longest strip should be 9 inches which allows for trimming and seam allowance. This is ideal for scraps and those "what was I thinking fabric purchases"!

In the example above, the first strip color is light beige. Place your center square and first strip right sides together. Sew as illustrated below. Use a 1/4" seam allowance. Cut flush above and below the center square. Open out and press the seam allowance towards the "log", away from the center square. We are not cutting a series of premeasured strip ahead of time as we are trimming as we go. Use your rulers to maintain square as you trim.

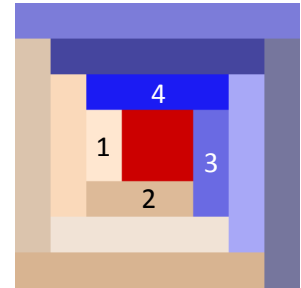


Do the same with the second log:



Continue to add logs as shown until your block is has three "rounds" or three logs on each side of the center. Work around the block counterclockwise as in the numbered at the top of the page.

You can make your light strips thinner (1") and your dark strips thicker (2") to create nice curves in your log cabins.



Thank you for participating! Tammy Murray