

BLOCK OF THE MONTH: MARCH 2015

Modern Log Cabin Block

Size of Finished Block: 12-1/2" square

The nature of this block is extremely improvisational, with very little measuring or pre-cutting. Your block will not look exactly like this sample block!

Materials

- Variety of scrap strips from the background fabric, as well as three or more print fabrics, ranging from 1" to 3" wide, and in a variety of lengths.
- If you don't have scraps, simply cut strips from any fabric you have on hand.
- To save waste, cut as you go.

Construction

1. Cut a 2-1/2" to 3" square for the center of your block. A "fussy cut" would work well here; e.g., an animal or other object.
2. Choose a small strip of background fabric in any width; align an end and side edge with your square, right sides together, and stitch 1/4" along one side.
3. With the pieces still right sides together, use scissors or a rotary cutter to trim the extended end of the background strip even with the edge of the original square.
4. Finger press the strip open, rotate your piece counterclockwise, and with right sides together, align another background strip (again, any width), perpendicular to the first and stitch 1/4" seam.
5. Just as before, trim the end of the strip even with work, rotate, and add another background strip. Continue until your center square is framed by four background fabric strips.
6. Repeat this entire process, adding frames to your piece, alternating between the background fabric and print fabric for contrast. Consider experimenting with using different width strips with the same frame to throw the design off-center for a more asymmetrical look.
7. Continue adding frames (at least three or four) until your block measures at least 12-1/2" on all four sides.
8. Trim to a 12-1/2" square.

