

Make your own Log Cabin patchwork block

For Log Cabin patchwork, strips of light and dark fabrics are sewn around a central square to form a larger square block. Templates are not usually required for Log Cabin patchwork, which makes it one of the simplest blocks to sew!

You will need: Light and dark cotton fabrics for the strips A bright colour for the middle square A ruler Scissors Pencil to mark strips on the fabric Sewing machine or thread and needle Iron and ironing board



Step 1: Cut 3.5cm wide strips out of your dark and light fabrics. Make the strips as long as possible. Mark the fabric on the wrong side of the fabric using your ruler and pencil and cut with scissors.

Step 2: Cut out a central square of 3.5cm (this includes the seam allowance).



Step 3: Iron your square and strips of fabric. (Ask an adult to help you use the iron safely.)

Step 4: Place the square right side up. Place a light strip of fabric right side down on the square, pin and sew 5mm (1/4 inch) from the edge by machine or with a small running stitch. Trim off surplus fabric and press.

Step 5: Turn fabric 90°, place light fabric down and sew. Cut off surplus fabric and press.





Step 6: Turn fabric 90°, place dark fabric down and sew. Cut off surplus fabric and press.





Step 7: Turn fabric 90°, place dark fabric down and sew. Cut off surplus fabric and press.

Step 8: Carry on sewing 2 light and 2 dark strips around the square until you reach the size block you wish to make.





Remember:

- If you are sewing by hand, use a running stitch with an occasional back stitch for strength.
- Sew 2 light strips, 2 dark strips, and repeat.
- Work in the same direction, keeping the NEW strip on top and the sewn logs underneath.
- The last log sewn is always that running along the entire length of the block.

This tutorial was adapted from The Quilters' Guild of the British Isles *Explorer Series No. 1 Log Cabin*, copyright The Quilters' Guild 1996.