

Making the Log Cabin Blocks

Note: This method works best when you want all blocks to have the same colors. To make this easier, lay out all your light strips in piles on the back of a chair, and the dark strips in piles on the seat of the chair, all within reach. I also like to have a small iron on one side of my machine and a small cutting mat, ruler and rotary cutter on the other side for trimming after each step.

I pulled these instructions from an actual quilt pattern of mine, so the measurements are there for THAT particular quilt. Just substitute your quilt's measurements where needed. This is simply meant to be a guideline for the general process. ☺

1. With right side up, lay a 2" wide light strip ready to go under the presser foot of your machine. One by one, lay the 3 ½" center squares on the strip, right sides together, lining up the right side raw edges, and leaving just a tiny space between each square. Sew a ¼" seam, and keep adding squares until you run out of the strip. Take another of the same light strip if necessary to sew all 24 squares. Press all seams toward the strip, and then cut each one apart, making sure to stay even with the squares.
2. With right side up, lay a different light 2" wide strip ready to go under foot, and place the units from step one onto the strip right sides together, and so the light strip on the unit is above the center square. Chain piece all the units just as in the first step, adding a strip of the same light fabric if you need it. Press the seams toward the long strip, and trim apart with ruler and rotary cutter, keeping everything nice and square.
3. Do the same as above, only using one of the dark strips this time, keeping the strip from step 2 above the center square when you lay them on the dark strip. Continue in this chain piecing method, until you have desired number of rows of logs on each side of the center square.

Visit our YouTube channel for a short video of me demonstrating this fun process!

- Jeni Gaston

