



JANUARY 2008 BLOCK OF THE MONTH

Twisted Log Cabin

Turn in at February meeting

Techniques: *Paperpiecing, which is a sew-and-flip technique*

Block size: 5-1/2 inch unfinished

Colors:

- *Reds and pinks. Darker value in the center, getting lighter toward the outside of the block. You need five fabrics, ranging in value from dark or medium dark to light.*

Cutting:

- Paperpiecing can be done with scraps, but if you want to precut approximate piece sizes:
- Starting from the center, fabric 1: Center square, approx. 3 inches
- Fabric 2, approximately 1-1/4 x 4-1/2 inches, cut diagonally into two wedges (need two rectangles cut to make 4 wedges)
- Fabric 3, approximately 5 x 1-1/4, cut diagonally, same instructions as fabric 2.
- Fabric 4, approximately 6 x 1-1/2, cut diagonally, same instructions as fabric 2.
- Fabric 5, approximately 6-1/2 x 2, cut diagonally, same instructions as fabric 2.

Construction – PAPER PIECING

How to Paperpiece:

1. **Use a shorter-than usual machine stitch** (such as 2.0) to make it easier to remove the paper when block is done without tearing out your stitches.
2. In paper piecing, you sew on the printed side of the pattern, where you can see the machine needle going through the lines. Your fabric is **underneath** the paper as you sew. Only the first piece of fabric patch A1, will be right side up when you add it, if you are looking at the blank, unprinted side of the pattern. All the other pieces will be wrong-side up (right-sides together with the fabrics already sewn in place), until the seam is sewn and the newly added piece is flipped open and pressed flat.
3. Cut a piece of fabric large enough to cover patch number “A1” on the printed pattern. Hold up to a light to make sure your piece of fabric covers patch A1 plus at least ¼-inch seam allowance in all directions. Place the fabric on unprinted side of the pattern, right side up. Turn over the paper and pin the fabric in place (on the printed side) or tack down with a dot of fabric glue.
4. On the printed side of the pattern, fold the pattern up on the sewing line between patch A1 and patch A2. With scissors or rotary cutter, trim the fabric to approximately ¼ inch along the folded seam. Fold the pattern open again.
5. Cut a piece of fabric large enough to cover patch A2 on the pattern, including a least ¼ inch seam extra around all sides. (Hold up to light to check.) Align patch A2 fabric *right sides together* with the trimmed edge of patch A1 fabric. Pin in place or hold firmly with your fingers. Check to make sure fabric covers ALL of patch A2 including any seam allowances. If not, adjust until all of patch A2 and seam allowances will be covered.

6. Carefully turn paper over and pin paper and fabric. Sew on the seam line between patches A1 and A2. Sew only from solid line to solid line; do not sew out to the outer seam allowance line (the thin line around the outside of the block). Turn pattern over to printed side. Fold pattern back on seam you just sewed. Trim the exposed fabrics to approximately ¼ inch seam. On right side of fabric, fold open the patch A2 fabric you just sewed, and press (either iron or finger press). Many paperpiecers prefer to finger-press.
7. Repeat for each new patch, in the order of the printed numbers on the pattern.
8. Once all patches have been added, turn over the block to the paper side and **trim on the OUTER THIN LINE**. Block should measure 5-1/2 inches.
9. Remove the paper pattern. A pair of tweezers helps. Start at the outside edge and lift and tear the paper away from a corner seam. Repeat for all four corners. Move inward to the next piece. The edge abutting the corner you tore away should lift easily. Tear out the paper. Repeat until all paper is removed.

Make as many copies of the pattern on the next page as you want. If using a copier, be sure and check that the copy is the same size as the original (some copy machines distort the size). You can also download and print copies of this pattern from the GSQ website. The file is in Adobe PDF format. NOTE: When printing from Adobe, make sure that PAGE SCALING is set to "None".

