



## OCTOBER 2007 BLOCK OF THE MONTH

### *Pineapple Log Cabin*

Turn in at November meeting

**Techniques:** *Paperpiecing, which is a sew-and-flip technique. Make a "miniature"*

**Block size:** 5-1/2 inch unfinished. YES, 5-1/2. There will be one other 5-1/2 inch BOM this year, so if you are making a block each month for yourself, this Pineapple Block and the other 5-1/2 inch block can be put together with plain squares into a four patch to make a completed 10-1/2 inch block. Why do this? We will have a total of 10 months of blocks, including next summer's block. By combining two BOM's into a single larger block, you will have 9 BOMs for your nine-block log cabin sampler quilt.

**Colors:**

- *Fall leaf colors: reds, rusts, burgundy, browns, yellows, oranges, golds, evergreens.*
- *You'll need two color families, with contrast between the two families and value difference for the logs within the color family. Traditionally, the lighter logs go toward the center, darker logs go out toward the edge of the block. The block's center patch can be a fabric in one of the two main color families or from a third color family.*

**Cutting:** For paperpiecing, your "logs" can be cut "approximately" to size. Except for the center, all the logs can be made from any scrap that is at least 1 inches "wide" by between 3 and 3-1/2 inches "long". This is a good place to use odd-shaped scraps. You don't need to precut the pieces as you'll be trimming as you sew and flip.

**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, the center, or 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 below as you need. 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.

