



LOG CABIN PROJECTS

UNDER THE STARS

With a shining star at its centre, Karen Lewis' sophisticated Log Cabin quilt is perfect for snuggling up under this winter.

Designed, made and quilted by **KAREN LEWIS**

LOG CABIN PROJECT
UNDER THE STARS



BEHIND THE QUILT

TWINKLING TEXTILES

“I love how different patterns can emerge from a single repeated block, which is how this design came about. I played around with the colour placement and layout of the classic Log Cabin block, creating a star. The central design comes to show from using low volume fabrics in the background. To frame the star, I incorporated smaller Log Cabin blocks around the outer edge to echo and emphasise the overall design.” – **Karen Lewis**

You will need

- Log Cabin centre fabric – ½yd
- Assorted dark blues (Colour 1) – 1¾yd
- Assorted light blues (Colour 2) – 1¾yd
- Background fabrics (low volume) – 2yds in total
- Backing fabric – 4yds
- Batting – 85in square
- Binding fabric – 22in x WOF

Finished size

- Approx. 72in square

Cutting out

1 Cut the Colour 1, Colour 2 and background fabrics into 2in x WOF strips. You may want to cut a few at a time to save leftover fabric.

2 Cut the Log Cabin centre fabric into 3½in strips. Sub-cut into thirty-seven (37) 3½in squares.

3 From Colour 1 (dark), sub-cut the following length strips:
Note: Keep the pieces for each block together in labelled piles.

Centre block

- One (1) 2in x 3½in.
- Two (2) 2in x 5in.
- One (1) 2in x 6½in.
- One (1) 2in x 9½in.
- Two (2) 2in x 11in.
- One (1) 2in x 12½in.
- One (1) 2in x 15½in.
- Two (2) 2in x 17in.
- One (1) 2in x 18½in.

Corner blocks

- Four (4) 2in x 9½in.
- Four (4) 2in x 11in.
- Four (4) 2in x 15½in.
- Four (4) 2in x 17in.

Middle side blocks

- Four (4) 2in x 6½in.
- Four (4) 2in x 8in.
- Four (4) 2in x 9½in.
- Four (4) 2in x 12½in.
- Four (4) 2in x 14in.
- Four (4) 2in x 15½in.

Border Log Cabins

- Twelve (12) 2in x 3½in (block A).
- Twelve (12) 2in x 5in (block A).

Notes

- Seam allowances are ¼in throughout.
- Press seams open, unless otherwise instructed.
- RST = right sides together.
- WOF = width of fabric.
- Wash and press all fabrics well before cutting.

Fabrics used

- “Essex Yarn Dyed Classic Wovens” by Robert Kaufman and a range of floral fabrics from Sevenberry. Both available from www.robertkaufman.com

- Twelve (12) 2in x 6½in (block A).
- Twelve (12) 2in x 6½in (block B).
- Twelve (12) 2in x 8in (block B).
- Twelve (12) 2in x 9½in (block B).

Border corner blocks

- Two (2) 2in x 3½in (corner block A).
- Two (2) 2in x 5in (corner block A).
- Two (2) 2in x 6½in (corner block B).
- Two (2) 2in x 8in (corner block B).

4 From Colour 2 (light), sub-cut the following length strips:

Centre block

- One (1) 2in x 6½in.
- Two (2) 2in x 8in.
- One (1) 2in x 9½in.
- One (1) 2in x 12½in.
- Two (2) 2in x 14in.
- One (1) 2in x 15½in.

Corner blocks

- Four (4) 2in x 12½in.
- Four (4) 2in x 14in.

Middle side blocks

- Four (4) 2in x 3½in.
- Four (4) 2in x 5in.
- Four (4) 2in x 6½in.
- Four (4) 2in x 9½in.
- Four (4) 2in x 11in.
- Four (4) 2in x 12½in.
- Four (4) 2in x 15½in.
- Four (4) 2in x 17in.
- Four (4) 2in x 18½in.

Border Log Cabins

- Twelve (12) 2in x 6½in (block A).
- Twelve (12) 2in x 8in (block A).
- Twelve (12) 2in x 9½in (block A).
- Twelve (12) 2in x 3½in (block B).
- Twelve (12) 2in x 5in (block B).



- Twelve (12) 2in x 6½in (block B).

Border corner blocks

- Two (2) 2in x 6½in (corner block A).
- Two (2) 2in x 8in (corner block A).
- Two (2) 2in x 3½in (corner block B).
- Two (2) 2in x 5in (corner block B).

5 From the background fabric, cut the following length strips:

Corner blocks

- Four (4) 2in x 3½in.
- Eight (8) 2in x 5in.
- Eight (8) 2in x 6½in.
- Eight (8) 2in x 8in.
- Four (4) 2in x 9½in.
- Four (4) 2in x 11in.
- Four (4) 2in x 12½in.
- Four (4) 2in x 14in.
- Four (4) 2in x 15½in.
- Four (4) 2in x 17in.

- Four (4) 2in x 18½in.

Middle side blocks

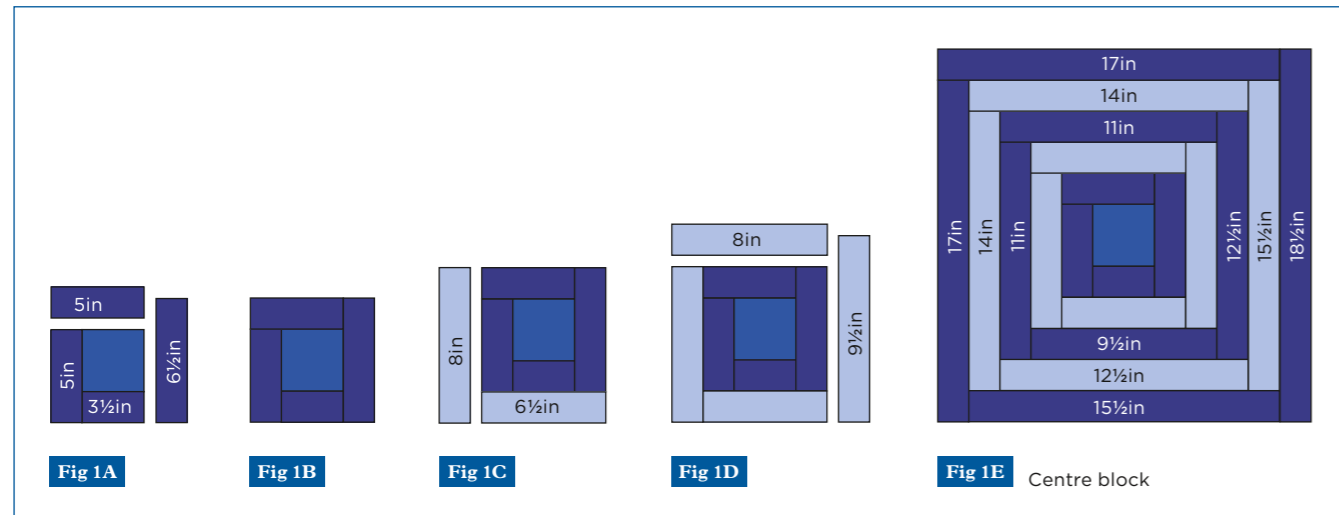
- Four (4) 2in x 5in.
- Four (4) 2in x 8in.
- Four (4) 2in x 11in.
- Four (4) 2in x 14in.
- Four (4) 2in x 17in.

Border Log Cabins and corners

- Twenty-eight (28) 2in x 5in.
- Twenty-eight (28) 2in x 8in.
- Four (4) 2in x 6½in.
- Four (4) 2in x 9½in.

Making the centre star

6 For the centre block, take one (1) 3½in square and add a 2in x 3½in Colour 1 strip to the bottom. Add a 5in Colour 1 strip to the left side. Add a 5in Colour 1 strip to the top and a



6½in Colour 1 strip to the right side to complete Round 1, (Fig 1A–B).

7 To complete the centre block, continue to add strips. Work in a clockwise order (referring to Figs 1C–E), as follows:

- Round 2:
 - Colour 2 – 6½in strip.
 - Colour 2 – 8in strip.
 - Colour 2 – 8in strip.
 - Colour 2 – 9½in strip.

- Round 3:
 - Colour 1 – 9½in strip.

- Colour 1 – 11in strip.
- Colour 1 – 11in strip.
- Colour 1 – 12½in strip.

- Round 4:
 - Colour 2 – 12½in strip.
 - Colour 2 – 14in strip.
 - Colour 2 – 14in strip.
 - Colour 2 – 15½in strip.

- Round 5:
 - Colour 1 – 15½in strip.
 - Colour 1 – 17in strip.
 - Colour 1 – 17in strip.
 - Colour 1 – 18½in strip.

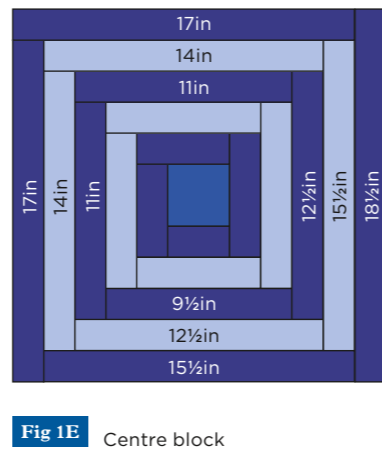


Fig 1E Centre block

8 Take all the corner block strips and make four (4) blocks, adding strips in sequence following the fabric positions shown in Fig 2. Make four (4) corner blocks.

9 Take all the middle side block strips and make four (4) blocks, adding strips in sequence following the fabric positions shown in Fig 3. Make four (4) middle side blocks.

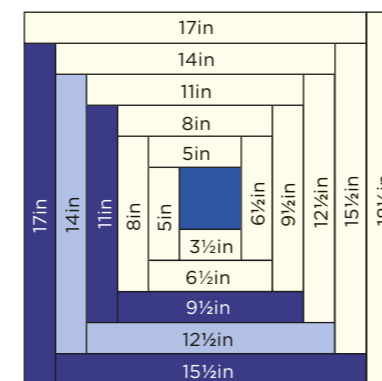


Fig 2 Corner block - Make 4

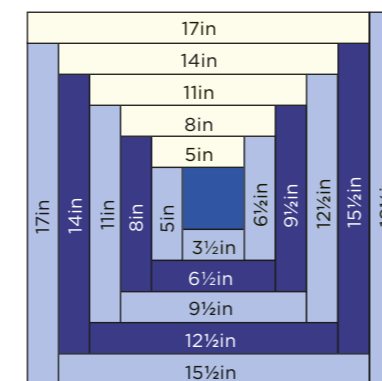


Fig 3 Middle side block - Make 4

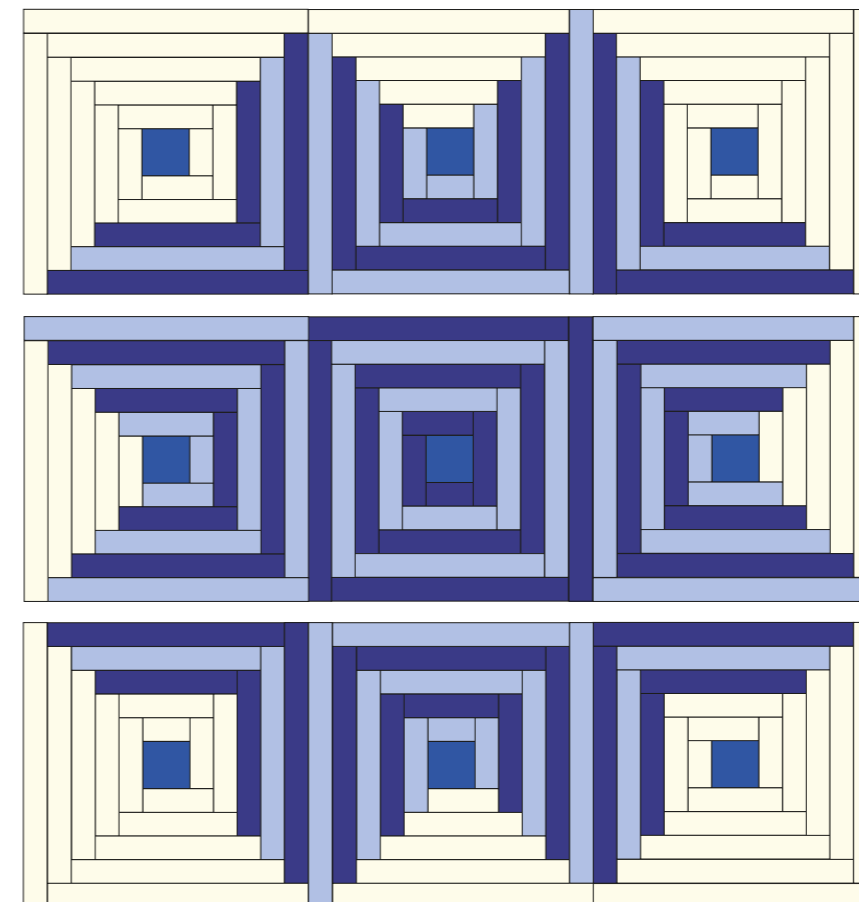
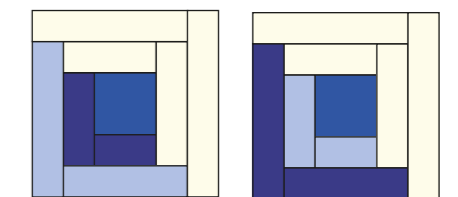


Fig 4

10 Lay out the nine (9) large blocks in the centre to create your star (Fig 4). Sew together in three (3) rows of (3) and then sew the three (3) rows together.

Making the border

11 Take all the strips for the border Log Cabin corner squares and make two (2) of each corner block A and corner block B, (Fig 5). **Note:** these only have two (2) rounds of strips.



Corner block A - Make 2
Corner block B - Make 2

Fig 5

12 Take all the strips for the border Log Cabin side squares. Make twelve (12) each of block A and block B, as shown in Fig 6.

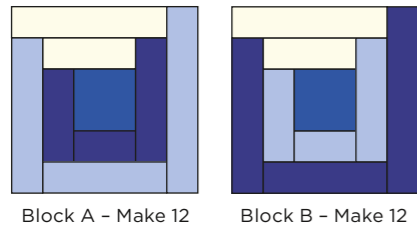


Fig 6

13 Lay out the twenty-four (24) border Log Cabin blocks, alternating block A and B in four (4) rows of six (6), as shown in Fig 7. Sew the blocks together.

14 Take two (2) of the rows. Sew a corner block A to one (1) end, and a corner block B to the other end, alternating the colours (Fig 8).

15 Sew the shorter borders to the sides of the quilt, and the borders with corner blocks to the top and bottom to complete the quilt top.

Quilting and finishing

16 Sew the two (2) pieces of backing fabric together along the long side using a 1/2in seam. Press the seam open.

17 Make a quilt sandwich, basting together the backing – right side down, batting and quilt top – right side up.



18 Quilt as desired and then trim square. Karen quilted in a free-motion quilting design, emphasising the centre of the Log Cabins using a pale grey 40wt Aurifil thread.

19 Cut the binding fabric into eight (8) 2 1/2in wide strips.

Sew the strips together end-to-end to make one (1) long binding strip and press in half lengthways, wrong sides together. Bind the quilt, carefully sewing the binding around the corners.

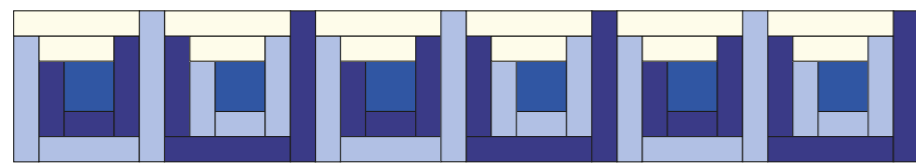


Fig 7 Make 2

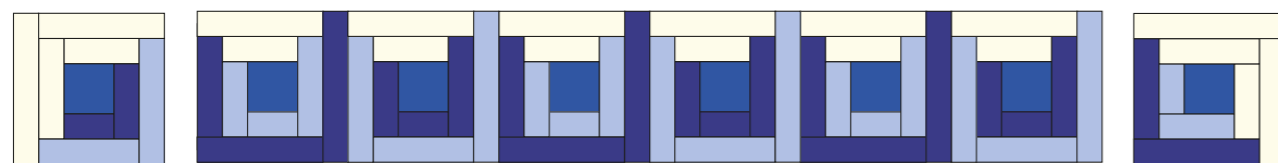


Fig 8 Make 2



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Meet the designer

Karen Lewis is a screen printer, fabric designer, quilter and author living in Leeds, West Yorkshire, with her husband and three children. Much-adored Cockapoo, Scout, has recently joined the clan and, when Karen isn't knee-deep in paint and fabric and designing for Robert Kaufman, she and Scout can be found out in the fields by their house. Karen teaches printing and textiles at workshops around the UK and overseas.

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