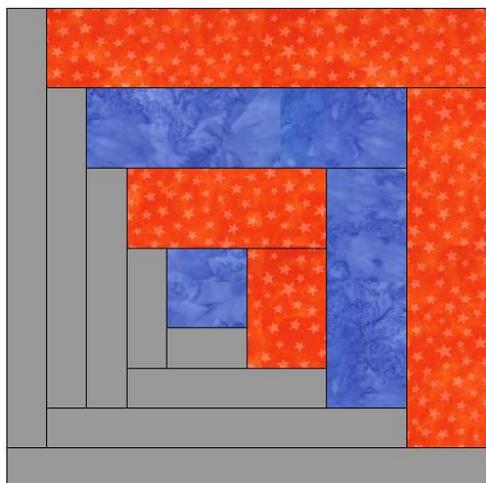


Court House Steps

12 inches finished (12½ end to end)



In our "Close to Home" quilt - this looks like a reverse of the Log Cabin - but it's another very similar block. When you make it for the quilt - use colours that match the right corner!

This one was first diagrammed in 1935 but I'm sure it was used before that. A traditional block has a light square in the middle of the block, and the two colours are used - one for the top and bottom steps, and one for the side steps. Each pair of steps were the same colour.

To get a more modern appearance, we'll put stripes in the larger side, and leave the small strips the light gray.

Light grey solid - 1½ inch strip the width of the fabric

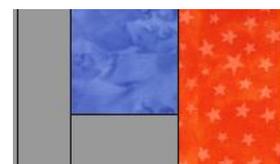
Orange Fabric - 2½ inch strip

Blue fabric - 2½ inch strip

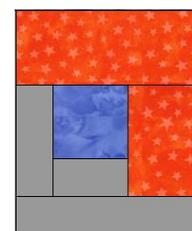
Start with a 2½ inch square of the blue, with a gray strip attached to the bottom and trimmed to 2½ by 3½ inches. This is the centre 'block' of the square.



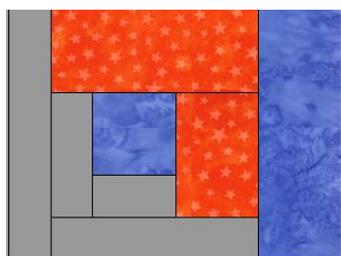
Now add a grey strip to the left side, and an orange strip to the right. Press to the outside and the piece should measure 5½ by 3½ inches



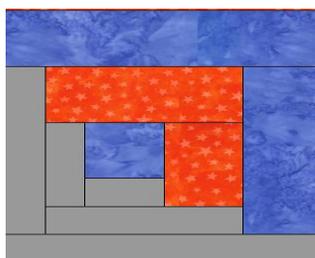
Now add an orange strip to the top, and a grey strip to the bottom. Press again and the piece should measure 5½ by 6½ inches



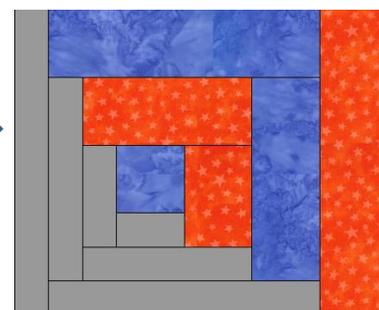
Keep doing the steps with one grey and the other coloured:



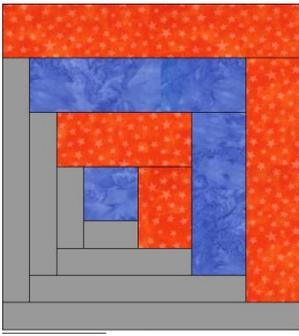
8½ by 6½ inches



8½ by 9½ inches



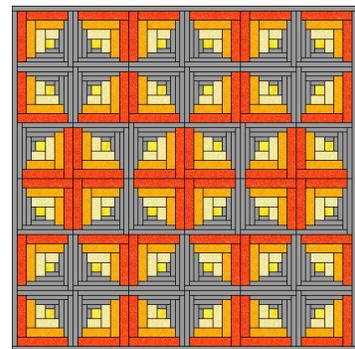
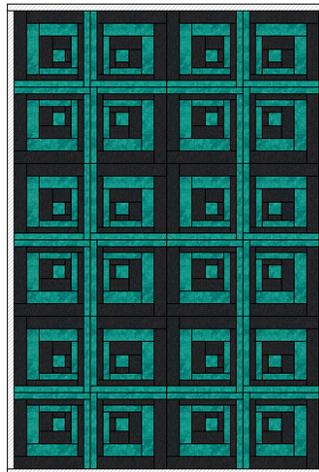
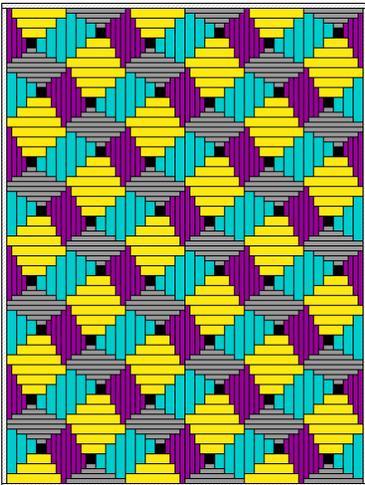
11½ by 9½ inches



11 $\frac{1}{2}$ by 12 $\frac{1}{2}$ inches. Now just add one more step on the left and you will have a courthouse square.

For the 'Close to Home' quilt, this block goes in the lower left corner, below the birds in the air blocks from last month. You now have the second strip for the quilt. If you wish to quilt it in sections, add a 4 $\frac{1}{2}$ inch strip of 'sky' to the top, and add your left border to the section. When you sandwich it, be sure to leave enough batting and batting to add the bottom border later. Quilt to within 2 inches of the right side of the strip - then set it aside until you have the center strip done.

The courthouse steps can look like the log cabin blocks, but they can also look totally different:



With equal size steps you can do some amazing quilts

