

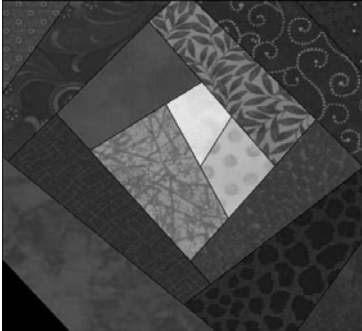
Scrappy Log Cabin

Presented at the January 2012 Meeting

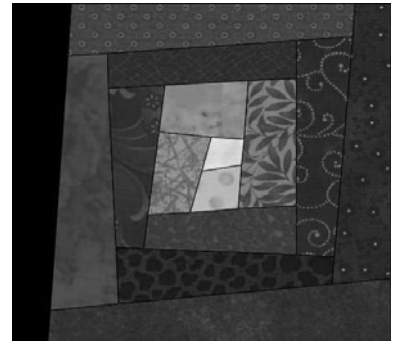
Due March 2012 AVQA Meeting

Finished Block: 8 ½ by 8 ½ and four triangles

Time to pull out your scrap bag of cotton fabrics, sort for color values (light to dark), and relax for an exciting evening of fun! The key to this block is to start with the lightest color fabric and work out to the darkest. Your fabrics need only be in strip form, whether you piece them into strips and then even up the sides or take previously uneven strips of fabric. It makes no difference. There is no need to worry. Just have fun.



1. Start with your lightest fabric in a square-ish state.
2. Take your next lightest fabric and sew it to one of the sides of your first piece. Trim up the left and right sides using your starting block as your guide.
3. Work your block clockwise and add your next darkest piece of fabric. Trim up the left and right sides using your previous block pieces as your guide.
4. Rotate your block clockwise again and sew on your next darkest fabric. Trim up the left and right sides using your previous block pieces as your guide.
5. Rotate your block clockwise again and sew on your next darkest fabric. Trim up the left and right sides using your previous block pieces as your guide.
6. Keep repeating this technique until your block is about 12 to 14 inches. At this point your block looks like the one to the right. Now it is time to turn it into the block above.
7. If you have an 8½ inch square, center it over the top of your block and rotate it 90 degrees. If you are like me, pretend you have an 8½ inch square and take your straight edge and rotate it 90 degrees making sure not to cut too deep into the square so your left and right sides have enough length to gain an 8½ inch depth.
8. Cut out your new block on point so it matches the picture at the top of the page.



Hint: The straighter, more even your rectangles are the easier this project is. The wider your rectangles are will only cause the middle to shift to one side or another. This is scrappy work so the shift is not only ok but desirable.

Hold on a minute! The best part of this block is still to come!!!

Now you have four almost perfect triangles. Some of them have their points cut off and others are smaller than the rest so let's fix them up. Remember, this work is scrappy so back to the scrap bag we go.

1. First fix all the tips that got cut off. We should be using our darkest fabrics. Find the matching or a coordinating fabric and sew on a new piece to the cut-off tip. Trim your tips by using the body of the triangle as your guide.
2. You will notice that some of your triangles are smaller than others. Taking the smaller triangles, add a new, darker strip on to one of the sides, not the hypotenuse, and then trim to the triangle block.
3. If your triangle is still too small, add another strip to the other side, not the hypotenuse, and trim to the triangle block.
4. You should now have four triangles that are almost the same size. These triangles can now be used by their new owner to make one big block or two small blocks or one strip to help sash the quilt. I cannot wait to see what the person decides to do with these triangles!