

February 2026

Off-set Log cabin

This month's block is a variation on a log cabin using 2 different width strips to make an off-set block.



Before you get started, please carefully read through all the fabric requirements and method. Also, please check that your sewing machine is sewing correctly i.e. the tension - make sure it's not gathering the fabric or that the base thread is lying on the fabric's surface.

FABRIC TYPE

Please use only quilting-weight cotton fabric, i.e., no curtaining, stretch, suiting, or upholstery fabrics. We are also unable to use blocks that include licensed fabrics.

COLOUR CHOICE

For this month's block, there is a choice of 3 colour schemes:

Green and Neutral,

Purple and Neutral,

Blue and Neutral.

Taking the above photo as a guide, choose mid- to dark-coloured fabrics that contrast nicely with the neutrals. The coloured fabrics may include small amounts of other colours, but should read predominantly as green, purple or blue. Please avoid fabrics with floral or large-motif designs.



Please choose pale neutrals in shades of ivory through to dark cream. Neutrals may include small amounts of other colours. Please avoid solid white.

Please use different coloured and neutral fabrics for each strip to give a colour-coordinated scrappy look. These will play together better than blocks made with single fabrics.

CUTTING INSTRUCTIONS

This month's block includes many pieces and a large number of seams. As such, it relies on accurate cutting, piecing and pressing to finish at the required size of 12.5 inches.

Please take care when cutting that your strips are the correct width throughout their length.

Please use $\frac{1}{4}$ " seam allowance. To check that your seam allowance is accurate, take two 2.5" strips, join them and press carefully (see below). The resultant piece should measure 4.5" wide. If it is too wide or too narrow, adjust your seam allowance accordingly to give the correct dimension.

After sewing, press each seam carefully. First, set the seam by placing the iron straight down onto it to flatten and set the stitches into the fabric. Then open the seam and gently finger-press the upper piece of fabric away from you. Press by placing the iron straight down onto the seam. When pressing, avoid wiggling or swishing the iron, as this will distort the fabric.

For each block, you will need the following:

Coloured fabrics		Neutral fabrics	
A	One square 2.5" x 2.5"	B	One strip 1.5" x 2.5"
D	One strip 2.5" x 3.5"	C	One strip 1.5" x 3.5"
E	One strip 2.5" x 5.5"	F	One strip 1.5" x 5.5"
H	One strip 2.5" x 6.5"	G	One strip 1.5" x 6.5"
I	One strip 2.5" x 8.5"	J	One strip 1.5" x 8.5"
L	One strip 2.5" x 9.5"	K	One strip 1.5" x 9.5"
M	One strip 2.5" x 11.5"	N	One strip 1.5" x 11.5"
		O	One strip 1.5" x 12.5"

METHOD

1. The strips will be sewn in alphabetical order, so it is helpful to stack them alphabetically before starting.
2. Sew neutral strip B to one side of coloured square A using a $\frac{1}{4}$ " seam allowance. Press seam allowance away from the square.
3. With neutral strip B to the top, sew neutral strip C to the side and press away from the square. The resultant piece should measure 3.5" x 3.5". If it doesn't, please re sew, adjusting the seam allowance as required.
4. With neutral strip C to the top, sew coloured strip D to the side and press away from the square.



- With coloured strip D to the top, sew coloured strip E to the side and press away from the square. The resultant piece should measure 5.5" x 5.5". If it doesn't, please resew adjusting the seam allowance as required.



- With coloured strip E to the top, sew neutral strip F to the side and press away from the centre.



- With neutral strip F to the top, sew neutral strip G to the side and press away from the centre. The resultant piece should measure 6.5" x 6.5". If it doesn't, please resew adjusting the seam allowance as required.



- With neutral strip G to the top, sew coloured strip H to the side and press away from the centre.



9. With coloured strip H to the top, sew coloured strip I to the side and press away from the centre. The resultant piece should measure 8.5" x 8.5". If it doesn't, please resew adjusting the seam allowance as required.



10 With coloured strip I to the top, sew neutral strip J to the side and press away from the centre.



11 With neutral strip J to the top, sew neutral strip K to the side and press away from the centre. The resultant piece should measure 9.5" x 9.5". If it doesn't, please resew adjusting the seam allowance as required.



12 With neutral strip K to the top, sew coloured strip L to the side and press away from the centre.



13 With coloured strip L to the top, sew coloured strip M to the side and press away from the centre. The resultant piece should measure 11.5" x 11.5". If it doesn't, please re sew adjusting the seam allowance as required.



14 With coloured strip M to the top, sew neutral strip N to the side and press away from the centre.



15 With neutral strip N to the top, sew neutral strip O to the side and press away from the centre. Well done, you have finished the block! The final block should measure 12.5" x 12.5".



POSTAGE

Please carefully check the postage – the cost depends on the envelope's size, weight and thickness. A standard stamp only covers 100g, 0.5cm thick letter. A large letter stamp only covers up to 100g. For anything heavier than 100g, you'll need a different stamp.

Underpayment incurs penalty charges (currently around £1.50 per parcel), which stack up quickly. Also, standard stamps without the barcode strips are no longer valid. Please don't use them, or penalty charges will be imposed by Royal Mail. If in doubt, please check at a post office.

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