

2020

Sarah's Sassy Sew Along



Ready in - several weeks??

Size - 75" x 83"

0 calories (can you tell I used a recipe template to write these instructions?)



Tips

This is a simple project, and the idea here is to use some stash fabric, and HAVE FUN!! If you have any questions, feel free to email quiltshoppe@littlefoot.net. We will get back to you as soon as possible!!

What You Will Need

- 3-4 yards assorted light fabrics
- 3-4 yards assorted dark/medium fabrics
- Strippy Star Tool from Creative Grids
- Basic Sewing Supplies

Preparation

1. Sort Your Fabrics!

Decide on a color palette and sort into lights and med/darks. You want contrast.

2. Starch and iron your fabrics. I'm liberal with my starch! Trust me, it helps!!

3. As you sort through your stash, be sure to also gather any precut fabrics you might have. Or even leftover blocks from other projects that work with your color scheme. Some of the common sized pieces we will be using are 2" squares in lights and darks, 3 ½" half square triangles, 3 ½" squares in light fabrics, 1 ½" strips in lights and darks. I found that I had some of these blocks and precut sizes already in my stash. You may as well.

4. Get ready to have some fun!

5. This quilt is easy to resize! Just make more blocks as you go along.

Crazy Courthouse Steps



Block Size - 9 ½"

Tips

★ When I say 'press' I am referring to using an iron. Personally, I think you get a much nicer result if you use an iron.

★ If you want your quilt larger than mine

- Consider making more than nine of these blocks. Bump it up to 12 or 16.

Cutting

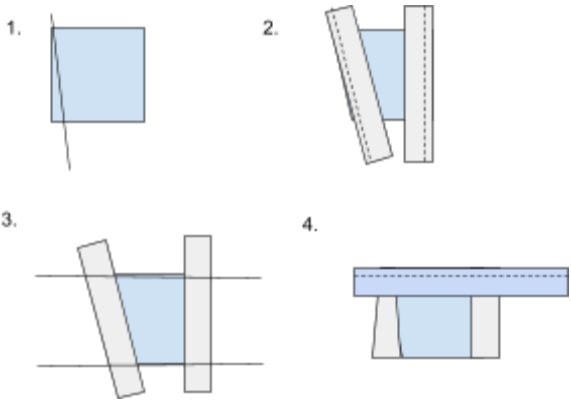
- (9) 3 ½" (or so) squares in medium or dark fabric for centers
- Several light and strips, measuring 1 ½" - 2" wide. Width is really unimportant. Use what you have on hand!

**When I say 'several' - variety is key. Feel free to cut as you go, you will probably need about 12 strips each of light and dark, depending on length.

Let's Sew!

1. Select 9 squares, which measure roughly 3 ½". Exact size is unimportant. Slightly trim each square an odd angle to make it a crooked square. (Or NOT square!)
2. Stitch a light strip of fabric to two opposite sides of center. Press back and trim.
3. Stitch a medium or dark fabric to the other two sides of center. Press back and trim.
4. At this point you may wish to tilt you block slightly and trim it a little wonky to add to the offset look. Be as dramatic or as safe as you feel comfortable. **You can't mess this up!! In the end, we will square all of the blocks up to 9 ½"!**
5. Make 9 blocks. Trim to 9 ½". Sew together. TA-DA!!!

See Illustrations on the next page.



Step 1 - Using a rotary cutter, slightly trim center square so that it is wonky. Each center square can be trimmed differently.

Step 2 - Stitch a light strip to two opposite sides of center. Any width strip will do - I used a mixture of 1 1/2" - 2" strips.

Step 3 - Using a hot iron, press strips back trim. I used a rotary cutter and ruler to trim.

Step 4 - Stitch dark strips to two opposite sides of center. Press back and trim in same manner.

After four strips have been added around the center, you may want to slightly trim block to keep it wonky. Just here and there.

Continue piecing until block is about 11" or so. Trim to 9 1/2"!

Four Patches and HST's



Block Size - 9 ½"

Tips

- ★ When I say 'press' I am referring to using an iron. Personally, I think you get a much nicer result if you use an iron.
- ★ If you have a preferred method of making HST's, feel free to use that. Ultimately, we need (64) 3 ½" half square triangles.
- ★ Same goes for 4-patches. If you prefer to strip piece, that's totally fine.

Cutting

- (160) 2" squares in medium/dark fabric
- (160) 2" squares in light fabric
- (32) 4" medium/dark squares
- (32) 4" light squares

***Note - the amounts mentioned above will make 16 blocks. This is enough to surround 9 Crazy Log Cabin Blocks. If you are making more Crazy Log Cabin Blocks, you will need to make more of these blocks.

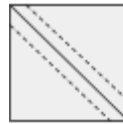
Let's Sew!

1. This block is fairly simple! The trick is to take your time, use an accurate ¼" seam allowance and press!
2. Using the 2" squares, make 80 4-patches.
3. Using the 4" squares, make 64 Half square triangles. (See Illustration). Trim to 3 ½" if necessary.
4. Use these units to make 16 blocks like the picture on the left! Blocks should measure 9 ½". Sew together around the Crazy Courthouse Steps blocks. TA-DA!!!

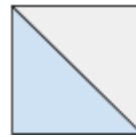
See Illustrations on the next page.



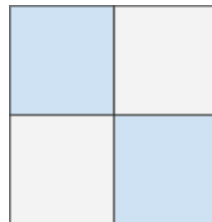
Draw a line diagonally on the back side of the light squares. Layer one med/dark square and one light square, faces together.



Stitch $\frac{1}{4}$ " on each side of the line. Cut apart on drawn line.



Make 64 HST's.
Trim to $3\frac{1}{2}$ " if necessary



Make 80 4 patches.
 $3\frac{1}{2}$ "

MORE Four Patches and HST's/Pop Color



Cutting -

- (10) 2" squares dark fabric
- (10) 2" squares light fabric
- (12) 4" medium/dark squares
- (12) 4" light squares

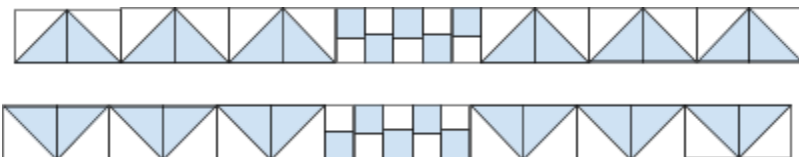
Let's Sew!

This is a pretty simple week of instructions. Have fun!!!

1. Using the 2" squares, make 10 2-patches.
2. Using the 4" squares, make 24 Half square triangles. (See Illustration). Trim to 3 1/2" if necessary.
3. Stitch these together in strips like the illustration and pictured quilt. I used matching HST's to create sort of 'pyramid' blocks, you could go totally scrappy, it's up to you.

Pop Color

- ★ Time to start thinking about a 'Pop' color! Something to add a little zip and continuity to your project. I used a teal, and actually it happened to be the wrong side of a grunge from my stash. You may need to try several different fabrics.
- ★ Don't worry if you can't seem to find quite the right fabric just yet. Keep your eyes open, keep trying different things out, and you will find it!!



← If you are making your quilt larger, you will need to make more of these. Notice that the units are the same sizes we have been using all along. So make enough to span the width of your quilt so far. We are not adding the pop color yet....that comes next week!

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Star Blocks/Pop Color



Let's Sew!

Half Square Triangles

Draw a diagonal line on the wrong side of 52 background 4" squares. Pair a 4" background square with a 4" scrappy square. Place faces together. Stitch $\frac{1}{4}$ " away from either side of the drawn

Strippy Star Blocks

Personally I found it very easy to use the Strippy Stars tool from Creative Grids. This tool makes it so easy to piece these stars.

From Background Fabrics Cut -

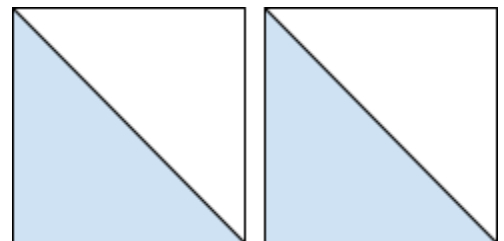
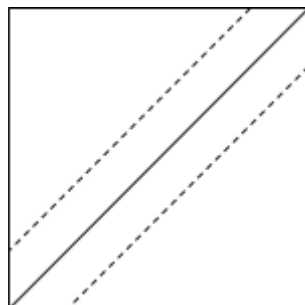
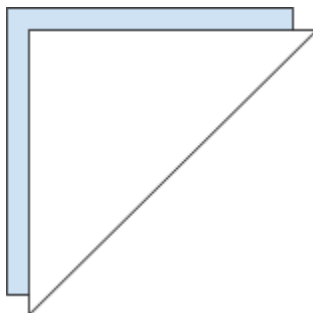
- 2" squares - cut 52
- 3 ½" squares - cut 104
- 4" squares - cut 52

From Scrappy Fabrics Cut -

- 2" squares - cut 52
- 4" squares - cut 52
- Several strips measuring 2 ½" wide - you can cut strips as you need them. These are for star points.

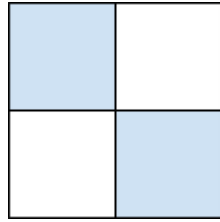
diagonal line. Cut apart on drawn line. Press toward the scrappy fabric. Trim if necessary to measure 3 ½" square.

Make 104 Half Square Triangles



Four Patch Units

Using the 2" squares, **make 26 four patch units.**



Star Tip Units

If you are using the Strippy Stars tool from Creative Grids, follow the instructions for the 9 1/2" block. If you are not, do as follows to make the star tip units:

On the right side of each of the (104) 3 1/2" background squares, draw a triangle. You can be symmetrical, or wonky! Mine are symmetrical. (But I see a wonky one in my future!). **See Diagram 1.**

Next, place one of your 2 1/2" strips of scrappy fabric face down, along the edge of the line you have drawn. Using a 1/4" seam stitch in place. **See Diagram 2.**

Press the scrappy strip back and trim even with the edges of the background square. Repeat on the other side. **See Diagram 3.**

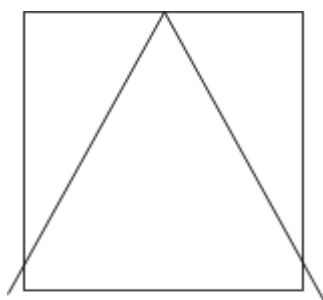


Diagram 1

Make 104 Star Tip Units.

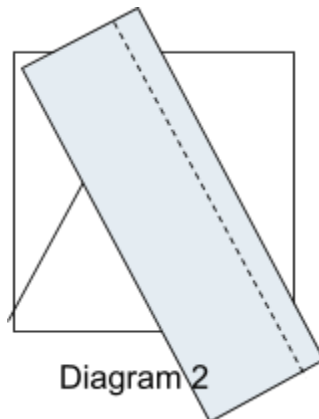


Diagram 2

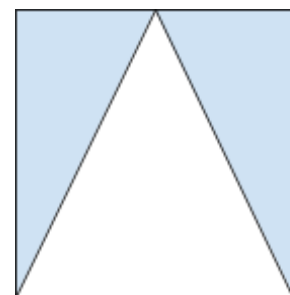
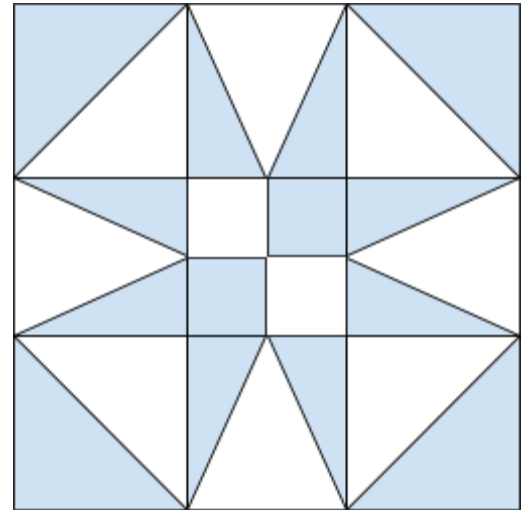


Diagram 3



Assemble Star Blocks using 4 Half Square Triangles, 1 Four Patch, and 4 Star Tip Units.

Make 26 Stars.

Pop Color

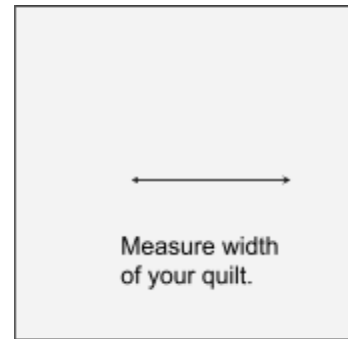
Once you have decided on a pop color, cut several 2 ½" strips. Sew about eight together, end to end, to make a long strip.

Measure your quilt!! Super important!!

Whatever the WIDTH of your finished piece is at this point is the number you will go with. If your quilt measures 47 ½", go with that number. **Everyone's number might be slightly different....this is ok!! Only your number matters!**

Once you have determined the width of your quilt, make sure the two strips we pieced last week match this number. If they don't, make them!! Here's what I mean! If your two strips are too short, add a little 'spacer' in between one of the two patches. If your strips are too long, take a larger seam allowance in one or two of your two patches until it measures the correct length.

Next, cut four strips of pop color to that same length. PIN one strip to the top and bottom of your quilt. Stitch in place. Press back. Next, take the pieced strips we made last month and pin these to the top and bottom of the quilt. Now, take the last two strips of pop color and pin in place to the top and bottom of the quilt. Press back.



Measure your pieced border strips. If necessary, 'make' these the same size as your quilt top. Add a 'spacer' strip or take a deeper seam allowance.

Now measure the length of your quilt. Whatever that length is, cut two strips of pop color that length. Pin to the two sides and stitch in place..

Next week we will address sewing the stars all around. Have fun!!!!

Star Border



Strippy Star Border

Let's get these stars stitched around the center!!

Once again, we are going to be measuring and making our border strips to fit. Here's how I did it!!

- First stitch together 5 star blocks.
- Measure your quilt top. Refer to last week's instructions if necessary.
- Measure the strip of 5 star blocks that you just sewed together.
- If you are incredibly lucky, this will be the same number. However, probably this won't happen. If the row is too short (like mine was) determine how short it is.
- 'Unsew' the two seams that hold the center start in place. Add an appropriate sized 'spacer' on each side of the center star.
- Sew back together.
- Using 5 more stars, do the same for the bottom row.
- Now do this whole process again for the two sides.

Courthouse Steps



Block Size - 7 ½"

Tips

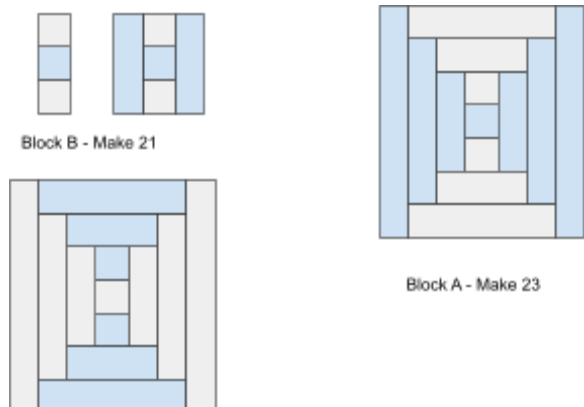
- ★ Feel free to use whatever method you prefer to make your courthouse steps blocks. If you have a ruler you like, that's fine!
- ★ Notice - roughly half of the blocks have dark centers and half have light.

Cutting

- Assortment of 1 ½" wide strips in lights and darks. Lengths vary. 1 ½" squares for centers and first log.

Block A (Dark Centers)- Make 23

Block B (Light Centers)- Make 21



1. I like to start my blocks with three 1 ½" squares. Be sure and press each time.
2. As I add logs, I simply stitch down, press and trim the excess even with the previous row.
3. Your blocks should measure 7 ½". Don't stress out too much if they are not that size! The important thing is that they are all the same size. Mine actually measure about 7 ¼".

Final Borders



Final Borders

Let's finish this baby!!

Once again, we are going to be measuring and making our border strips to fit. Here's how I did it!!

- Decide how wide you want your border of pop color around your star blocks. Mine is cut at 2". Measure your quilt as we have been doing and cut border strips to length.
- Pin in place and stitch.

- Do this to all 4 sides.
- Next, lay your quilt out and lay the courthouse steps blocks you have been making all around the quilt. Alternate the dark centers and light centers. You can see my picture.
- Depending on the size of your quilt, you may need more or fewer courthouse steps blocks, and it might be different exactly how your light and dark centers alternate.
- Using the method we did last week with the stars, add 'spacers' as necessary between courthouse steps blocks to make the borders fit.

I did not add a final solid border to my quilt. Only because I was out of the pop color at this point and I was happy with the size. I had exactly enough of my pop color to do binding and decided to go with that.

I hope you've had fun with this quilt!! Please share pictures with us, we love seeing them. Check out the Friends of Little Foot facebook page for more inspiration!!

Thanks again for sewing along!

Xoxo Sarah

Little Foot Quilt Shoppe