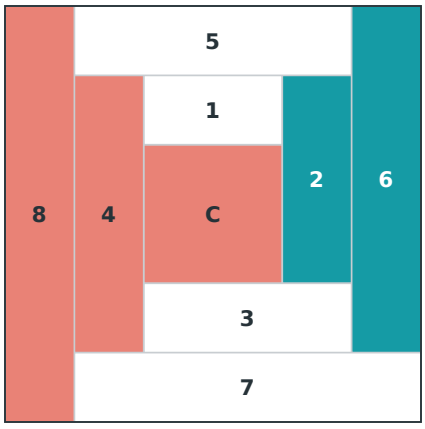
MY FIRST QUILT / BLOCK 05

Log Cabin

12" finished • 12½" unfinished • Building outward in two rounds



C = center; numbers = sewing order

CUT FOR ONE BLOCK

All cutting sizes include ¼" seam allowances.

Piece	Fabric	Cut one of each
C	Coral	**4½" × 4½"**
1	White	**2½" × 4½"**
2	Turquoise	**2½" × 6½"**
3	White	**2½" × 6½"**
4	Coral	**2½" × 8½"**
5	White	**2½" × 8½"**
6	Turquoise	**2½" × 10½"**
7	White	**2½" × 10½"**
8	Coral	**2½" × 12½"**

SEW THE BLOCK

1. Start with the center.
Keep the diagram upright. Sew each log with right sides together and a ¼" seam. Match the ends and pin. After every addition, press the seam toward the new log before adding the next one.

2. Sew the first round.
Add log 1 above the center, 2 at the right, 3 below, then 4 at the left. Sew along each log's long edge. After log 4, the unit should measure 8½" × 8½".

3. Sew the second round.
Add log 5 above the unit, 6 at the right, 7 below, then 8 at the left. Keep checking the ends align; do not stretch a log to fit. Press toward each new log.

4. Check the size.
The block should measure 12½" × 12½" unfinished. If a log does not fit, check the previous seams and cutting sizes before continuing. Keep the outer seam allowances intact.

Size check: a 4" finished center plus two rounds of 2" finished logs gives 12" square. Checkpoints: center 4½"; first round 8½"; second round 12½" unfinished.

A LITTLE HISTORY

The Smithsonian holds Catherine Hutchins's Log Cabin quilt, dated 1850-1899. She used 4,872 fabric scraps to make 168 six-inch blocks, each with a red center. Our version uses a coral center and wider logs for beginner-friendly piecing.

History source: Smithsonian, National Museum of American History

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