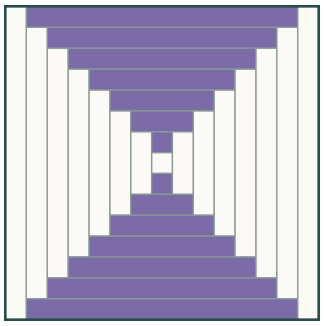
A QUILTPLAN BLOCK PATTERN

COURTHOUSE STEPS

Logs in pairs, stepping out from the middle.



29 pieces, 2 fabrics

A close cousin of the Log Cabin, sewn from the center out, but with the logs added in opposite pairs instead of round and round. That keeps the dark logs above and below the center and the light ones to either side, so the block reads as two sets of steps meeting at a small square in the middle.

SKILL Beginner

SEAMS ¼″ throughout

SIZES 15″, 22½″ and 30″ finished



Cutting

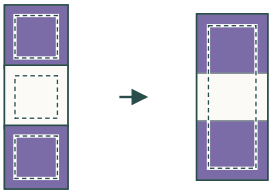
Cut, for one block	15″	22½″	30″
1 Light logs: cut 2 strips	1½″ × 15½″	2″ × 23″	2½″ × 30½″
2 Light logs: cut 2 strips	1½″ × 13½″	2″ × 20″	2½″ × 26½″
3 Light logs: cut 2 strips	1½″ × 11½″	2″ × 17″	2½″ × 22½″
4 Light logs: cut 2 strips	1½″ × 9½″	2″ × 14″	2½″ × 18½″
5 Light logs: cut 2 strips	1½″ × 7½″	2″ × 11″	2½″ × 14½″
6 Light logs: cut 2 strips	1½″ × 5½″	2″ × 8″	2½″ × 10½″
7 Light logs: cut 2 strips	1½″ × 3½″	2″ × 5″	2½″ × 6½″
8 Light logs: cut 1 square	1½″ sq	2″ sq	2½″ sq
9 Dark logs: cut 2 strips	1½″ × 13½″	2″ × 20″	2½″ × 26½″
10 Dark logs: cut 2 strips	1½″ × 11½″	2″ × 17″	2½″ × 22½″
11 Dark logs: cut 2 strips	1½″ × 9½″	2″ × 14″	2½″ × 18½″
12 Dark logs: cut 2 strips	1½″ × 7½″	2″ × 11″	2½″ × 14½″
13 Dark logs: cut 2 strips	1½″ × 5½″	2″ × 8″	2½″ × 10½″
14 Dark logs: cut 2 strips	1½″ × 3½″	2″ × 5″	2½″ × 6½″
15 Dark logs: cut 2 squares	1½″ sq	2″ sq	2½″ sq

Fabric, for one block

Buy at least	15″	22½″	30″
☐ Light logs	¼ yd	½ yd	½ yd
■ Dark logs	¼ yd	¼ yd	½ yd

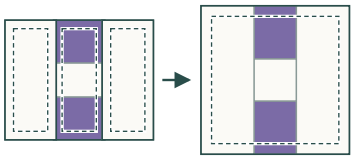
Worked out the way QuiltPlan's shopping list does it: 42″ of usable width, 15% for waste, rounded up to the quarter yard. For a whole quilt, place the block in the app and it totals every block for you.

Sewing it



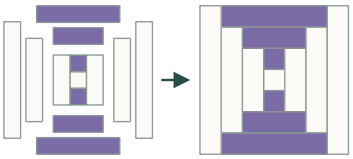
1 · The center column

Sew a 15 square above and below the 8 square. Press away from the center, toward the Dark logs.



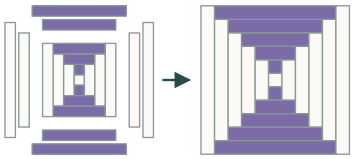
2 · The first pair of sides

Sew a 7 log to each side of the column and press outward. The unit is square, 3½" for a 15" block, 5" for 22½" and 6½" for 30". Every pair from here on goes on the same way: both sewn, then both pressed away from the center.



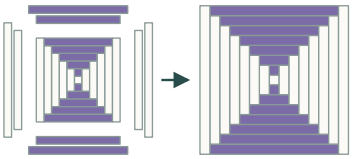
3 · Rounds 2 and 3

Dark 14 logs top and bottom, then Light 6 logs on both sides. Then 13 top and bottom and 5 on both sides. The unit measures 7½" for a 15" block, 11" for 22½" and 14½" for 30" square, opposite sides matching.



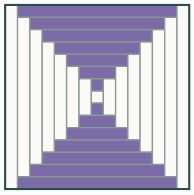
4 · Rounds 4 and 5

12 top and bottom, 4 on both sides, then 11 top and bottom and 3 on both sides. It measures 11½" for a 15" block, 17" for 22½" and 22½" for 30" square.



5 · Rounds 6 and 7

10 top and bottom, 2 on both sides, then 9 top and bottom and the 1 logs down both sides to finish.



6 · Check it

The block measures 15½" for a 15" block, 23" for 22½" and 30½" for 30" square, Dark logs stepping up and down from the center and Light logs out to the sides. Trim only slivers to square it, measuring from the center square.

Good to know

- Narrow logs show every wobble in a seam, so sew an accurate quarter inch and press after every pair, lifting the iron rather than sliding it.
- Label each pair of strips with its length as you cut them. Several are close in size and easy to mix up.
- **Why these sizes?** At 15", 22½" and 30" every piece of this block lands on a ruler line. At other sizes the app still works out the cutting for you.
- **Want a different size or a whole quilt?** Courthouse Steps is in QuiltPlan's block library. Place it on a quilt and the app gives you the cut list, the yardage and the shopping list for every block at once.

Light logs Dark logs